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# THE TIMES

TUESDAY APRIL 13 1982

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## Falklands Moscow attacks stepped up

The Russians stepped up their attacks on Britain over the Falkland Islands, accusing the Conservative Government of being unable to assess the international situation realistically and of banting after imperial greatness. Moscow also denied that the Russians were seeking to capitalize on the conflict.

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## US citizens told to quit

All United States citizens on the Falklands — there are thought to be about 30 — have been advised by the American Embassy in Buenos Aires to leave the islands. At least one family has already left.

## Chile extreme

Anti-Argentine comment in Chile has reached the extreme of a newspaper suggestion that Soviet naval forces might intervene to support Argentina's occupation of the islands.

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## Inhospitable

An assessment of the territory on which British troops might have to fight reveals a terrain remarkably inhospitable and unsuitable to swift military movement of any kind.

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## No complaints

The shipping line P & O say they have had no complaints at all from passengers and schoolchildren depredated of their cruises by the call-up of the liners Canberra and Uganda.

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## Steaming south

The British naval task force, now steaming well into the tropics, has been intensifying exercises to bring sailors, soldiers and airmen to peak readiness for any future action.

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## Other news

### More verdicts by riot jury

The Terry May murder jury will today spend their eighth day at the Central Criminal Court deciding verdicts on seven youths accused of rioting and one of murder. Yesterday one youth was cleared of murder and manslaughter and two convicted of rioting.

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## Criticism defied

President Reagan is to name more of his political friends and supporters as ambassadors in the coming months, despite criticism that he is making too many such appointments.

Page 3

## Pay-back TV

A leading TV rental company may have to pay back considerable sums to customers after an Office of Fair Trading investigation into 17 companies which it believes raised charges without authority.

Page 9

## Bulawayo attack

A police officer was killed and three were wounded in a grenade attack in a beer hall in Bulawayo. The police have been called there to investigate an incident.

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## Oil job fears

Hundreds of jobs in the North Sea oilfield building industry are at risk amid fears that the value of orders fell by 15 per cent last year.

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## Spurs advance

Tottenham Hotspur maintained their hopes of winning the first division championship when they beat Arsenal 3-1 at Highbury. Manchester City's slide continued with a 4-1 defeat at Wolverhampton Wanderers.

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## Leader page 7

Letters: On the Falklands, from Capt E. F. Carlisle, and others; Middle East oil, from Mr A. R. K. Mackenzie, and Professor H. W. Singer; nuclear waste, from Dr T. J. Francis.

Features, pages 5, 6

Lord Home of the Hirsel answers Ronald Burt's criticism of the Foreign Office's Falklands policy; the Iraqi prisoners learning to love Khomeini; reforming the coroner's courts; Britain's drinking problem.

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## Home News

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## Arts

## Bridge

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## Science

## Sport

## TV & Radio

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## Obituaries



# Israelis accuse Egypt of abetting PLO

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem, April 12

Two weeks before its scheduled withdrawal from the Sinai, the Israeli Government has accused Egypt of abetting the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), of forming closer links with it, and of breaching certain military clauses in the Camp David peace treaty.

An official refused to provide specific details beyond claiming that Egypt and the PLO had formed markedly closer ties in recent weeks. It is understood that Israel has alleged that these include facilitating the smuggling of weapons across the border into the occupied Gaza Strip.

The Israelis have also accused Egypt of breaching the spirit of the treaty during a speech to a conference of non-aligned countries in Kuwait last week, when the Egyptian delegate, Mr Ismet Abd-el-Meguid, made no reference to Palestinian autonomy, and instead set out a proposal for Palestinian self-determination.

Successful organ donation from one transplanted individual to another has been hampered by the problem of rejection. Little is yet known about how white blood cells of the donor are triggered to attack and reject transplanted organs. Dr David Levy, from the University of Colorado, Denver, has shown that the attack on donor blood transfusions in two different stages and that the first step occurring at the graft site and the second at the recipient's blood cells, the first stage is the most important. That was demonstrated by the same researcher when it was found that white blood cells of the donor in the first stage did not trigger the second stage of rejection.

In a related development, Mr David Levy, the Deputy Prime Minister, said in a speech to young members of his right-wing Herut Party that it is because of Egypt's unwillingness to accept the peace treaty, the withdrawal from Sinai was delayed, let it be delayed.

The sudden deterioration of Israeli-Egyptian relations has caused international concern about Israel's willingness to press ahead with

## NEWS IN SUMMARY

### Turks free Ecevit

From Michael Mantin New York, April 12

Mr Rupert Murdoch, publisher of the *New York Post*, offered a measure of workers' participation to his staff, and to the staff of the besieged *Daily News*, in his attempt to get union support for a takeover of the ailing *Daily News*.

He warned the Allied Printing Trades Council members who had invited him to meet them to discuss his plans for a possible purchase, that the *Post* and the *News* "are engaged in a dance of death, which must end in the disappearance of one or both newspapers". To avoid that, he was prepared to come to an agreement with the News Employees Share Ownership Trust to merge the ownership of the two papers.

The trust was set up by the staff of the *Daily News*, who committed to it their current pay increases — a total of £1m (£11m) in the first year.

The employees hope that if all else fails, the Chicago Tribune Company, which at present owns the paper, will sell it to them.

The present owners announced at the end of last year that they were putting the paper up for sale because of rapidly growing losses. The company said last week that it had come to an agreement with a Texan millionaire, Mr Joseph Albritton, provided that he could get the terms he needed from the unions. Mr Albritton suspended his talks when he heard of the union's approach Mr Murdoch.

Mr Murdoch told the trades council today that he would seek immediate savings of labour costs sufficient to cover current operating deficits but would then maintain both tides separately.

### Mother seeks spy to track killer

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg, April 12

The mother of a murdered South African academic has flown to the Seychelles in the hope that one of seven alleged mercenaries captured after November's abortive coup may be able to shed some light on the death of her son.

Mrs Jane Turner, whose son, Dr Rick Turner, was murdered while serving a five-year government banishing order, wants to question Mr Martin Dolinchek, self-confessed South African spy. The murder has never been solved.

Mr Dolinchek, who has claimed he is a member of the National Intelligence Service, the successor to South Africa's Bureau for State Security (Boss), faced a



### Friends of Reagan to be envoys

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles, April 12

It was noted that accusations about Egypt's collusion with the PLO — particularly its refusal to take action against the PLO office in the Sinai town of El Arish — have been made before. There are puzzles about Israel's precise intentions in bringing them to diplomatic prominence at such a crucial point.

The Israeli official said the request for American diplomatic aid represented serious concerns about Egypt's intentions after the final Sinai withdrawal. He described Egypt's stand at the non-aligned conference as "very worrying".

Foreign observers thought the Israeli moves were designed to tell the world about the "high price" the Government feels it is paying for the peace treaty. They were also regarded as an accurate reflection of widespread concern among Israelis over the future of relations with Egypt after the final handover.

In addition to the Israeli complaints about Egyptian attitudes, official negotiations have still failed to resolve 15 outstanding points of difference in demarcation of the border, including the dispute over the resort complex at Taba Bay on the Gulf of Aqaba.

### Grenade kills policeman in Bulawayo beer hall

Bulawayo, April 12. — A police officer was killed and three were wounded in a grenade attack on a patrol here in Zimbabwe's second city, a police spokesman said today. At least two civilians were also wounded in the Friday night blast in a suburban beer hall, the spokesman said. He said several people had been arrested in connection with the incident but gave no details.

Five policemen had gone to the beer hall after a report of trouble there, and the grenade was tossed in when they entered, the spokesman said. There was no indication of the motive behind the attack. But there are dissidents in the Matabeleland area, many of them remnants of guerrilla groups who fought in the seven year war in the former Rhodesia.

"There have been several

armed attacks in Matabeleland, the political power base of Mr Joshua Nkomo, the opposition leader. Two motorists and a policeman were killed in attacks in rural areas south of Bulawayo in the last week in March.

Two Zimbabwean trucks were ambushed in Mozambique and a driver killed on Saturday, a spokesman for the National Freightways Trucking Company said today. The attackers were believed to be members of the Mozambique National Resistance (RNM) he said.

The weekend turnout, despite poor weather which included snow, was hailed as a huge political success by a peace movement spokesman.

"The message is that we shall not rest until the deployment of medium-range missiles is stopped", he said.

### Two years of Doe's rule

## Liberia's drift to right accelerates

From Godfrey Morrison Monrovia, April 12

Liberia today celebrated Redemption Day, the second anniversary of a military coup in which the former civilian President, William Tolbert, was killed and more than a century of rule by the country's Americo-Liberian élite was swept away.

This West African state, founded by freed American slaves, is still very much under the control of Mr Samuel Doe, at the time of the coup a master-sergeant but now commander-in-chief and head of state.

Like other members of the People's Redemption Council (PRC) which exercises supreme power here, he is not of Americo-Liberian descent but comes from one of the tribes from the interior, which felt themselves dominated by the Americo-Liberians.

Internationally, the regime got off to an inauspicious start with public executions of members of the previous administration causing widespread condemnation from African neighbours and the international community.

But the coup was locally popular and the PRC appears to be reforming, not least because the establishment of a commission to write a new constitution seems to show that it is in earnest in keeping its timetable for a return to civilian rule in three years' time, on April 12, 1985.

When he seized power at the age of 28 Mr Doe appealed to many observers a somewhat revolutionary, even apocalyptic figure. Thin and wiry, hollow-cheeked, dressed in combat uniform, he would bark out his public pronouncements in a strange, broken English.

Two years later he is distinctly plumper and round-faced, affects well-cut business suits, rattles off a prepared text with fluency. The steady drift towards the right accelerated last

August when, after an alleged coup plot had been uncovered, Major-General Thomas Weh Syen, Mr Doe's deputy, and three other PRC officers were arrested and subsequently executed. They were generally seen as the radical element within the PRC élite.

The dominant foreign influence here remains the United States and a Liberian order last May that Libya close its Peoples Bureau and that the Soviet Embassy reduce its staff from 15 to six was widely seen as a response to American pressure.

American leverage is easy to understand. "The country is to all intents and purposes broke," was how one economist put it. Without Washington's bilateral aid and assistance from the International Monetary Fund, the economy would cease to function.

Mr Doe is widely credited here with a genuine desire to get his soldiers back to their barracks, but in restoring civilian rule he has to take into account the wishes of the other members of the PRC and the armed forces.

A principal reason for the coup was that he and his fellow soldiers lived in slum conditions in squalid barracks while Tolbert and his cronies lived off the fat of the land.

It is no accident that a key element in the United States aid programme is \$43.5m (£24m) earmarked for building barracks and living quarters for the Liberian Army. Such are the realities of West African politics.

In a speech marking the second anniversary of military rule Mr Jackson Doe, advisor to the head of state on national and international affairs, called on the military authorities to stamp out corruption, dishonesty and inefficiency from the public service, which was the prime reason for the coup.

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## FALKLANDS CRISIS

# Argentina fails to delay OAS crisis session

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 12

The 30-nation Organization of American States (OAS) has agreed to go into special session here this evening on the Falkland Island crisis.

Earlier the OAS delayed the session for the second time in four days to allow American mediation attempts a chance to resolve the dispute.

There was a mood of cautious optimism in Washington today that the shuttle diplomacy by Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, could prevent an open confrontation between Britain and Argentina over the islands.

However, while there was hope that shooting in the South Atlantic could be avoided, it was recognized finding a permanent solution to the 149-year dispute over sovereignty was much more difficult.

American officials were uncharacteristically silent about the proposals which Mr Haig was understood to have taken from Buenos Aires to London, fearing that leaks to the press at this stage could jeopardize his delicate mission.

Sources aid the broad terms of the plan being considered by Mr Haig would fall within the scope of Security Council Resolution 502 and could include:

An Argentine withdrawal and return of the islands to British administration in exchange for a recall of the British fleet steaming towards the South Atlantic. The Argentine flag to be kept flying on the islands.

The 1,800 islanders to be allowed to choose their own form of government.

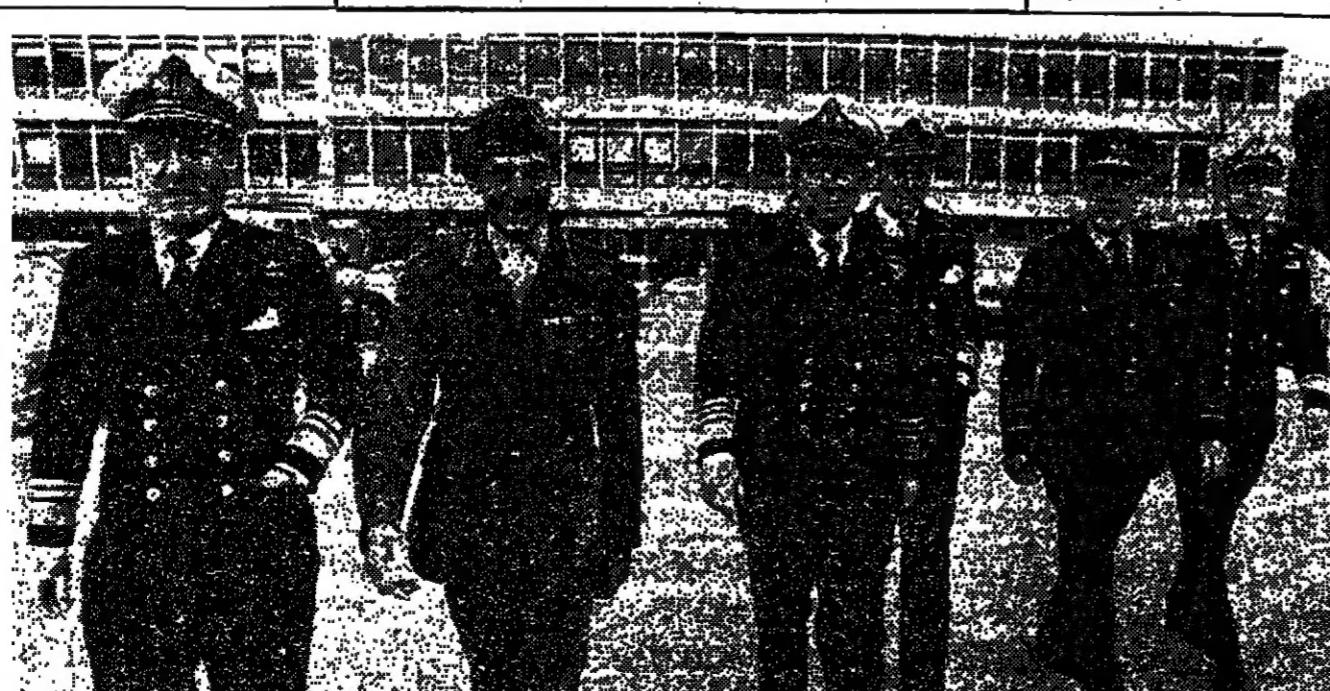
The possible deployment of an international peacekeeping force on the islands while a permanent solution is being worked out.

Mrs Jeane Kirkpatrick, the United States representative at the United Nations, expressed the more hopeful mood prevailing in Washington during a television interview yesterday when she said: "There is a reasonable likelihood that a last-minute sort of resolution may be found to the crisis which will at least avoid war or bloodshed between the two parties."

Several factors have contributed to the more buoyant mood prevailing in Washington. It is felt that the extension of Mr Haig's mission means that both Britain and Argentina are interested in a face-saving compromise which can avoid open hostilities.

Actions and statements by the Government in Buenos Aires are also taken as a sign that the Argentines, surprised by the strength of the British response to the island's seizure and the tough measures taken by Britain's main allies, want a negotiated settlement.

Similarly, officials have noted the relatively moderate tone of statements emanating from Buenos Aires. For example, Mr Esteban Takacs, the Argentine Ambassador to Washington, appeared on



The men in charge: Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander-in-Chief Fleet, and his staff yesterday at HMS Warrior, Northwood, Middlesex. Left to right: Vice-Admiral Peter Herbert; Major-General Jeremy Moore (Major-General Royal Marines Commando Force); Admiral Fieldhouse; Vice-Admiral David Halifax (Chief of Staff to C in C); Air-Marshal Sir John Curtiss (AOC No 18 Group, RAF); and Rear-Admiral Peter Hammersley (Chief of Staff, Engineering).

## P & O prepare bill of millions

By Nicholas Timmins

P & O, which is likely to present the Government with a bill for several million pounds in compensation when the Falkland Islands crisis is over, said yesterday that adult passengers and children deprived of cruises have been very understanding over the Government's requisitioning of their ships.

"We have had no complaints at all directed at us", a spokesman for the shipping line said yesterday. "People appreciate our position and have been extremely understanding."

Yesterday President José López Portillo of Mexico who supports the Argentine claim to the islands but opposes the use of force in settling international disputes whatever grounds were given to justify it, said that Argentina has a right to "decolonize" the islands.

He proposed a settlement "in line with the law".

Mr López Portillo was referring to a United Nations resolution of 1965 which, he said, recognized "the right of the Argentine Republic to decolonize the Malvinas Islands (Falklands)".

However, the resolution also upholds the islanders' right to a decisive voice in this issue.



Walking the olive branch . . .

### Inhospitable islands

#### Life is tough, even for Land Rovers

If British troops have to land in the Falkland Islands they will find a country which is less hospitable than the people, and one hardly designed for military operations.

One of them, Mr Christopher Crabbie, was asked about the islands for Britain: their oil potential, their fishing resources or their strategic value. He replied: "The most important thing for us is that they are British".

Mr Alexander Haig flew out of a clear blue sky to land at Heathrow airport at 5.42 am, catching several United States Embassy aides and reporters unawares (Our Foreign Staff writes).

His aircraft was originally expected to land at 6.20 am. He looked exhausted when he made a short statement to waiting reporters on the tarmac telling them that he had brought with him "ideas which have been developed on the basis of United Nations Security Council Resolution 502".

He then sped off along deserted Easter Monday streets to the Churchill Hotel in Portman Square near Marble Arch in the large black Chrysler which he uses on trips to London. After freshening up and eating breakfast, he set out for Downing Street where he was greeted at No 10 by Mrs Margaret Thatcher 9.28 am.

The Secretary of State, who looked less tired than when he arrived, and Mrs Thatcher, who was wearing a business-like two-piece grey suit, exchanged greetings for the benefit of reporters without their customary smiles.

Just before Mr Haig arrived, Mr Francis Pym crossed Downing Street from the Foreign Office with a polite "Good Morning".

Henry Stanhope

### Only 10% against the use of force

Overwhelming support for the Government's stated Falklands policy and repugnance for the loss of life it might involve are contrasted in the following responses in a poll conducted last Thursday by Opinion Research for London Weekend Television's *Weekend World* programme.

Support for diplomatic means backed by force (figures represent percentages):

Strong support	61
Quite strong support	18
Neither support nor oppose	12
Oppose	5
Strongly oppose	5

Support a blockade, lasting at least six months:

Support	75
Oppose	7
Don't know	7

Support for sinking Argentine Navy:

Strongly support	48
Quite strongly support	10
Neither support nor oppose	12
Oppose	12
Strongly oppose	5

Would you regard many islanders killed as a price worth paying?

Worth the price	51
Not worth the price	35
Don't know	11

If the islanders were prepared to accept Argentine rule rather than see their lives put at risk:

British should nevertheless use military action	18
British should negotiate	15
British should abandon claims	15
Don't know	52

Voting intention:

Conservative	37
Labour	35
SDP/Liberal Alliance	28

### Task force put on war footing in tropics

From John Witherow on board HMS Invincible April 12

Captains of several Royal Navy ships were meeting on board HMS Invincible today to coordinate exercises and bring the fleet to full readiness for war.

The captains of Invincible and the other aircraft carrier Hermes held a council of war last week but this latest meeting will include commanders of the other frigates and vessels in the task force.

Reviewing the situation one high-ranking officer said: "The programme continues this week with more advanced and more coordinated exercises between the various ships. As each day goes by these efforts are more coordinated." Among the scheduled exercises are feigned attacks by the carriers on one another and these may well now include defensive operations by the missile-carrying frigates.

Unconfirmed reports on the BBC radio news of signs of a diplomatic solution to the crisis were meanwhile greeted with some scepticism and a "wait and see" attitude. "I'm cautiously optimistic," the officer said. "But as far as we are concerned, we press on and continue preparing for what ever the Government wants us to do."

Preparations on board the Invincible on Easter Monday against attack were the most intense since the anti-submarine carrier left Portsmouth over a week ago.

The use of smoke canisters, thunderflashes and "scare bombs" in addition to a simulated air attack were designed to add an air of realism.

A klaxon over the tannoy at 9 am and the statement "Action stations, action stations. Assume NBCD State One. Condition Zulu" announced the start of a four-hour exercise in which five enemy aircraft were said to be launching an attack.

The tannoy announced that the ship's Harrier fighters had been scrambled to meet the aggressors and had put several "in the water", but one attacker had slipped through and fired an Exocet missile, hitting the ship. Firefighting teams using breathing apparatus had to make their way down darkened passageways filled with smoke as one-pound scare charges, normally used to deter divers, were dropped overboard to add realistic sound effects.

The tannoy continued to announce the outbreak of fires elsewhere in the ship and the firefighting teams, watched by umpires, had to get there as fast as possible.

Commander Anthony Provest, the second-in-command, who first joined the ship, just before we sailed, described the exercise as "pretty severe" and said the crew would get the idea of the sort of damage the carrier would receive in action. Preparing the ship to withstand attack as best as possible is treated extremely seriously and one senior officer added: "There are many documented incidents of ships which didn't get it right and sank as a consequence, and here are others which got it right and were saved. The programme has been quite excellent. The flying has come together extremely well. They've pulled their act together and indeed advanced in their state of training."

He said that flying off the old type of carriers had been an especially "nerve-racking and high-tension business".

But the Harriers could land across the deck and did not always force the carrier to head into the wind during take-off. "It is a new era and a nice one", he added.

"We exercise all the time and start off in a very good state.

### World viewpoint

## Chileans weigh up Soviet connexion

Five-column headlines in Chilean newspapers on the Falklands dispute have emphasized the country's concern about the situation and the possibility of war (Florencia Vargas writes from Santiago).

"One might overlook the offensive conduct of disregarding the signature and seal of Her Majesty on the document containing the decision which recognized the Chilean right to the islands in the Beagle Channel... but it is not possible to condone the illegal occupation of the Malvinas nor dismiss political and juridical reaction in the face of the facts"; the paper said, affirming that the two issues were related.

Argentina was forgetting that the Pope had been waiting 16 months for the Argentine answer to his official proposal on the southern dispute with Chile. Argentina had also forgotten that it refused World Court arbitration in the Falklands dispute and that it threatened war in 1978 if Chile sought arbitration at The Hague.

Other Chilean newspapers have expressed concern regarding the economic implications and impact on Chilean foreign trade of a war zone near its borders. Chilean political analysts agree that Chile should act with extreme caution in order to capitalize on the event and to avoid errors of consequence.

## Moscow: Brickbats for London and for Bonn

The Russians yesterday stepped up their attacks of Britain over the Falklands, accusing the Conservative Government of being unable to assess the international situation realistically and bickering after imperial greatness (Michael Binyon writes from Moscow).

The Soviet Union also strongly denied that the Russians were seeking advantages for themselves in the conflict, and denounced Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, for saying on Saturday that the Soviet Union was encouraging Argentina in an act of violence.

Pravda's London correspondent, in his first substantive report on the affair, said the British Government was showing "an amazing heedlessness of the just demands of the peoples of the developing countries", and Britain had stubbornly refused to implement United Nations resolutions on the decolonization of the Falklands and was deliberately delaying negotiations with Argentina.

The paper said the military and diplomatic stir going on in London was being accompanied by a "noisy chauvinistic campaign" in the British press with attempts to prove from opinion polls that the majority of the population supported military confrontation.

Argentina is the Soviet Union's biggest trading partner in the Third World, and the Russians have expressed concern that the British naval blockade of the islands might disrupt vital Argentine exports of grain and meat to the Soviet Union. Soviet support for Buenos Aires has grown noticeably warmer in the past few days as the Russians have grasped the dimensions and implications of the conflict.

## Tokyo: Suzuki 'refusing to impose sanctions'

Mr Zenko Suzuki, the Japanese Prime Minister, has replied to Mrs Thatcher's request for full Japanese support against Argentina in the Falklands dispute, according to a Foreign Ministry spokesman (Reuter writes from Tokyo).

The spokesman refused to disclose the contents of Mr Suzuki's letter, but Kyodo, the Japanese news agency, said he had refused to impose economic sanctions against Argentina. He was quoted as saying that Japan's position was that the dispute should be solved at the United Nations.

Earlier yesterday Japan warned Argentina that relations between the two countries, especially economic links, could be damaged unless Argentine troops were withdrawn from the islands in accordance with a Security Council resolution.

The warning was given by Mr Yoshiro Sakurachi, the Japanese Foreign Minister, to Senor Gabriel Nuncio Oliva, the Argentine Ambassador to Japan, ministry officials said.

A spokesman said Mr Nuncio's letter would be delivered by the Japanese Embassy in London, and a copy was given to Sir Hugh Coruzzi, Britain's Ambassador to Japan.

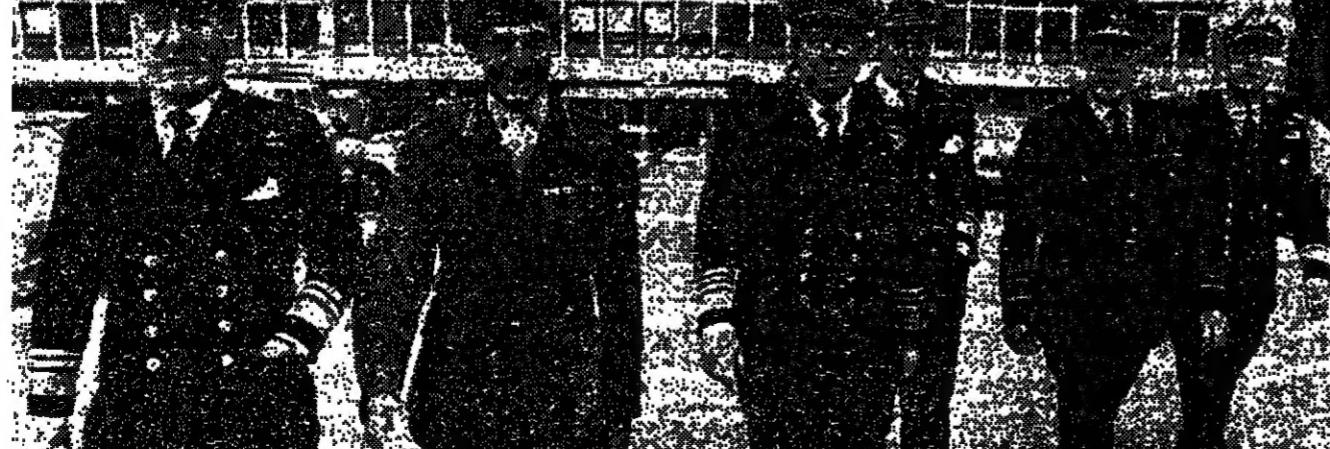
South Africa denied that it signed a military pact with Argentina and other South American countries, according to Dr Brand Fourie, Director General of Foreign Affairs and ambassador designate to the United States (Our Johannesburg Correspondent writes).

Reading "such a weekend report that such a treaty had existed for nearly a decade", he said he had no knowledge of it. Such a treaty has long been mooted by South Africa and was given an urgent thrust when Britain abrogated the Simonstown agreement in 1976. The argument put forward was that the British withdrawal from the Simonstown base and the South African bases should form an integral part of the South African version of the "South Atlantic version of the Falklands agreement".

They confirm that the eventual aim is to create something similar to a "South Atlantic version of the Falklands agreement". The existence is not a significant consideration in Britain's present action against Argentina, however, largely because the treaty is not fully ratified.

### Correction

Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan were in "informal" consultation over the Falklands "crisis" on March 31, not March 17, as stated yesterday.



### OIL SHOWS LITTLE PROMISE

Washington, April 12.— Offshore oil exploration in the vicinity of the Falkland Islands has not disclosed any major reserves, according to a report today by Petroleum Information International, an oil industry publication.

In 1975 a United States Geological Survey report estimated the area's potential could total between 40 million and 200 million barrels of oil, but there has been little exploration, according to the weekly newsletter.

They said the most successful well in the area was drilled last year by Esso, 130 miles north-east of Rio Grande on the tip of Argentina. The well, one of 13 drilled by Esso, produced 3,000 barrels of oil a day but was rated as non-commercial and abandoned. Reuter.

The shipping line said it has still to agree terms with the Government on the requisitioning of the ships.

Less lucky are children who have lost educational cruises on the Uganda. The 940 children on the current cruise are due to dock on Naples today, losing four days of a 14-day trip, when they and the 315 adults on board will be flown to Garwick, allowing the Uganda

to be converted in Gibraltar to a hospital ship.

They are being offered money back pro-rata for the lost days, and the Uganda's

requisitioning has been

delayed by the lack of

space in the ship.

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# Don't snipe at the Foreign Office, go for the politicians instead

In his article in *The Times* on April 8, Ronald Butt laid two charges against the Foreign Office. The first was that in foreign policy over the years officials had deliberately discarded morality in favour of expediency; the second, that they had conditioned successive foreign secretaries to neglect the relationship between diplomacy and defence.

On the first of these accusations, where is his evidence? If I remember correctly, it was the Foreign Office officials Vansittart and Wigand who were identified as arguing most forcibly against conciliation of the dictators Hitler and Mussolini.

At the time of the Suez operation, it was widely known that many officials argued that to proceed with the kind of military plan which was proposed would leave a moral stigma on Britain.

Foreign Office officials have often been labelled pro-Arab and anti-Israel, but I have never known one who did not insist upon the inviolability of the State of Israel. So it is with South Africa. If arguments of expediency had prevailed, the Royal Navy would still be in Simonstown, and 3,000 miles nearer the Falkland Islands, but those considerations were rejected in favour of sustaining a principle.

Within my recollection the task was given to the Foreign Office officials to prepare with their opposite numbers from overseas the draft to be embodied in the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference. Against much opposition, they insisted that it should contain (1) acceptance by the signatories of human rights and (2) inclusion of that rule in the Charter of the United Nations which insists on non-interference by one country



**Lord Home of the Hirsel,**  
former Prime Minister and  
Foreign Secretary, replies  
to Ronald Butt's criticism  
of the official handling of  
the events leading up to  
the invasion of the  
Falkland Islands

in the internal affairs of another.

In international affairs, where there are so many motes and beams, it is not always easy to detect a moral content, but historically it is impossible to sustain the charge that Foreign Office officials never admit that there is a point beyond which diplomacy cannot go and other means have to be employed.

That is certainly true of the Falkland Islands dispute. No one will doubt that the Foreign Office was right to try for a negotiated settlement. Equally all must concede that the moral test which any particular proposal had to pass was that it must be acceptable to the Falkland Islanders. That condition was strictly preserved by all Foreign Office officials and ministers. At that point, to borrow Mr Butt's phrase, "the Foreign Office dug in its toes".

As to the solutions which were canvassed, namely condominium or a lease-back of sovereignty, they cannot in themselves have been reprehensible as they are virtually the same as those being considered

now after force has been used to back diplomacy.

No two situations with which the Foreign Office is called to deal are alike, and few, if any, of the solutions to the deadlock are plain. There are bound to be what Dr Runcie lately called "ethical ambiguities" in free societies.

If, for example, the purely moral test was to be applied, there would be a strong case for ejecting the Soviet Union from the United Nations for breaching the Charter. It could come to that, but so far there has been a majority among the democracies in favour of trying all reasonable means to wean her away from her practice of subversion and the use of force in support of political aims to a more constructive relationship. Democracies deal in conciliation and only as a last resort with arms.

The failure in the case of the Falklands was not that diplomacy was tried and tried again but that an error was made (in which others were concerned as well as the Foreign Office) as to the degree of visible force which

could have deterred the dictator bent on an operation of snatch and grab. That was not a moral, but a military calculation. It was for that misjudgment in this particular case that Lord Carrington and others paid the price.

One lesson has been reinforced, that dictators are not bound by the rules which democracies observe. Doubtless Mr Butt will not begrudge the Foreign Office the very substantial diplomatic achievements which have occurred in recent days. To have mobilized the Security Council, the European Community, influential members of the Commonwealth and the United States on Britain's side shows that there is still influence and authority in British diplomacy.

One further thought strikes me. In a free society, no one, and nothing should be cocooned against criticism, but scrupulous care should be taken to select, where possible, the politicians rather than the officials. The former can answer back, the latter cannot; and if their case goes by default, the morale of their service can sink.

I recall in this context a conversation with Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, on the merits of sporting guns. After a time, Mrs Gromyko chipped in and said: "If you buy a gun for my son, buy a better gun than you do for my husband, for my son allows the ducks to rise off the water".

Officials are sitting ducks.

With any future shot Mr Butt

may fire, I hope his target will be the politician and his model the younger of the Gromykos.

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In Sir Ian McGeoch's article on the Falklands crisis last Tuesday the quotation attributed to General Sherman should have been attributed to Nathan Bedford Forrest.



Peach: died April 79



Kelly: died June 79

Prosser: died August 80

## The legal lesson of these three men's deaths

by Michael Meacher

Despite the acquittal last month of the three prison officers charged with the murder of Barry Prosser at Winson Green prison in Birmingham, widespread disquiet still exists about the whole episode. A local MP has called for a public inquiry. Four civil liberties organizations have just asked the Home Secretary to reopen the matter, particularly to examine again the adequacy of the procedures for dealing with deaths in custody.

In the period 1970-80 there were 336 deaths in police custody in England and Wales. In addition, during the similar period 1969-79 there were 531 deaths in prison of which 226, as determined by an inquest, were due to unnatural causes or suicide. Of both these totals, only a small number of cases have aroused concern as to whether death might have been due to violence or neglect. But in these cases the procedure been very disquieting.

The basic problem is that coroners' inquests at present follow almost none of the rules designed to ensure justice in all other courts. The coroner himself, not the interested parties, decides what evidence to call, and he alone can address the jury, and often virtually directs it on the verdict. The police lawyers have all the witnesses' statements, while the lawyers of the other interested parties have nothing comparable with which to test the police evidence. And however eccentric the coroner's view of the law or of the evidence, there is no right of appeal.

Perhaps the most serious deficiency, however, are the denial of legal aid and the denial of access to the police investigator's report for both the family concerned. Without legal aid, interested parties are not usually in a position to be represented at inquests, even where the police or other official bodies have such representations.

The difficulties are illustrated by the inquest into the death of Blair Peach, killed during the Scottish National Front demonstration in 1979. Legal costs for his friends and family totalled nearly £20,000, while legal representation for the Metropolitan Police came out of taxpayers' money.

Even such legal representation, however, is of little value without access to the police investigator's report and all the relevant pathological evidence. At the Little Towers inquest at Newcastle the family's barrister was denied prior access to the pathologist's and other essential statements, and was not allowed to call his own witnesses. At the Jimmy Kelly inquest in Liverpool in 1980, the jury was not permitted to see all the police

evidence, nor even all of the first pathologist's report. In November 1980, the Home Secretary made a statement to the House on various changes in these procedures. Inquests with juries were to be held on all deaths in custody — this had not always been the case previously. Coroners' juries were to be selected in the same way as for other courts. And the coroner's officer was to be a civilian and not a policeman, as was previously often the case.

But Mr Whitelaw turned down the two key reforms. Legal aid was rejected, on the grounds that it would cost £3m a year (though it is hard to see how this figure was arrived at unless it was assumed either that there would be at least 100 cases a year similar to Blair Peach or Jimmy Kelly, or that all inquests would have interested parties seeking legal aid). Also, access to the investigator's report was rejected, on the ground of confidentiality.

Nevertheless, even if these reforms were to be made, there are still serious drawbacks inherent in the inquest system as a means of examining such sensitive episodes as deaths in custody. Where there may be suspicious circumstances, coroners do not necessarily have the background to handle this kind of highly charged case.

For example, at the inquest after the Deptford fire which killed 13 young black people in January 1981, the coroner took no written notes during the whole of the proceedings.

Perhaps the most valuable reform would be to establish a two-tier process. First, a filter mechanism would separate off those relatively few cases where there was *prima facie* evidence of violence or neglect in custody. The remainder, the great majority of cases, could still appropriately be handled by coroners, though the several improvements in procedure mentioned here do need to be made. But the former cases should be dealt with by a High Court judge.

This should ensure a thorough and proper hearing of the matter, with both sides able to call witnesses and to present their evidence in their own way, and with both sides and the jury having full access to all the relevant evidence.

A bearded librarian from the Lebanese town of Zahlé claimed he had been forced to enlist while working in Baghdad. A Somali, Faiz Bijazi, frightened but unwilling, pleaded with me to tell his embassy of his presence. He had been a scholarship student at Baghdad University, he said, when he had been press-ganged into the Iraqi army. He had not been visited by the Red Cross. But he got no further, for an Iranian soldier ordered him not to speak.

They were lectured for more than an hour in Arabic by Iranian mullahs who welcomed them as brothers and by Iranian army officers who said that the United States, France, Britain and other Western nations had prompted Iraq's attack on Iran. There were no contradictions from the audience. When they kept to pray, the prisoners took the Ayatollah's portrait from around their necks, lay it on the breezy mountains of the Alborz range, 350 miles from the Iraqi frontier.

They were lectured for a few hundred prisoners refused to pray — they had probably not washed before prayer, added the official: they have not been purified.

But they will be, or so Ayatollah Khomeini firmly believes. From his residence in North Tehran, the man who still personifies Iran's revolution has given specific instructions that Iraqi prisoners of war are to be well treated and given all the comforts of captive soldiers.

They are paid between eight and 50 Swiss francs per day in wages, and — according to the Iranians — have been individually contacted by the Red Cross and allowed to send letters to their families in Iraq. Their guards — in red striped trousers, red military police hats and white neckerchiefs — are among the smartest soldiers in Iran; model

troops for a model prisoner of war camp. The Iraqis are meant to be impressed.

Apparently there have been no attempts to escape across the double wall of barbed wire that surrounds the camp. "The prisoners are glad to be alive," said an Iranian from the Ministry of National Guidance. He neglected to mention that the captives were being held far from the battlefield, beneath the breezy mountains of the Alborz range, 350 miles from the Iraqi frontier.

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### When no news is electrifying

Have you ever wished you were better informed? When Nigel Lawson sacked Glyn England as chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board earlier this month, one of the reasons given was that the CEBG had not given enough information to officials — the Department of Energy. England dismissed the claim as "nonsense" and used the occasion to reveal that he was a founder member of the SDP and to launch a bitter attack on the Government's dealings with his industry.

Today the Electricity Consumers Council publishes its response to the consultative document, *Consumers' Interests and the Nationalised Industries*. The memorandum has an appendix about the council's difficulties in obtaining information, particularly from the CEBG. "Information has often not been forthcoming", it says, "on important matters such as the Bulk Supply Tariff, the Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation into the CEBG, ECT research projects on the Planning Margin and power station construction delays."

It is not the first time the CEBG's close attitude to information has been remarked. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission's report in May 1981 noted that the CEBG's 1980-81 development review, "hitherto regarded as an internal document", had been made available too late to be taken into account.

### Pirate publishers

Macmillan has started another Korean war. If this seems a little anachronistic, let CEGE explain. Macmillan, the publishing house, has mounted a blockade against any further purchases of paper and print from Korea until the country's government takes action to stop Korean publishers pirating *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*.

Nicholas Byam Shaw, the Macmillan managing director, first complained that Lee Jun, of the Kukje Publishing Company in Korea, was pirating *The New Grove* a year ago. Lee's plates and stocks were frozen, but says Byam Shaw, "when the hue and cry died down they were released". Over 500 copies of the pirated edition have been sold, with the result that Macmillan has made no money from *The New Grove* in Korea.

There is no legislation in Korea against such infringement of copyright. The Book Development Council, which estimates that last year British publishers bought more than £500,000 in print and paper from Korea, and that sales of British books there were worth about the same, says

### THE TIMES DIARY

**John Lill**, who is to play all 32 Beethoven piano sonatas in a series of eight concerts at the Queen Elizabeth Hall starting on Thursday, says that planning the programmes has been rather like arranging a menu.

"To play them in straight chronological order is stylistically too cramped. Each recital must give a fair representation of earlier, middle and late works, played in order of composition. I shall never play an earlier work after a later, and no programme

there is increasing evidence that United Kingdom publishers generally will divert their business elsewhere unless there is an end to piracy in Korea. Macmillan's opening shot is to cancel two orders worth \$75,000.

**Jam tomorrow**

The Studio Club, founded by Augustus John, Jacob Epstein and others in 1917 and a famous venue for jam sessions of jazz music in the 1950s and '60s, is to reopen after a 15-year closure.

Alan Clare, who will be returning as resident pianist, tells me the artists' club had become pretty decrepit when he first went to play there. "There were notices up saying members must pay their subscriptions if the club was to continue, the floorboards were unsafe and the piano was

crumpled."

**Erdite protest from Dorset**: the seat counter at the Sherborne Liptons over Easter bore a sign saying "You can stick your corned beef where Don Juan stuck his paella". What juice bit of Dorso Molino, Moliere or Byron do the locals know that I have missed?

### Shabby treatment

A billiard stuck across Pablo Picasso's birthplace in Malaga announces: "The wax museum at Torremolinos — third dimension in wax." After last year's brouhaha in Spain celebrating the centenary of the painter's birth, it is sad no one had thought of putting a plaque on 6, Plaza de la Marceda, a pleasant early 19th century square just behind Malaga's cathedral.

The house, where Picasso lived the first nine years of his life, is tumbledown. Plaster is falling, the windows gape open with shutters gone. The last occupant left their junk behind.

By contrast two streets away a plaque commemorates the birth of a totally forgotten poet, "an illustrious unknown", as the Spanish would call him. It makes Picasso's treatment look shabbier.

There is something funny about typewriters, and this is not a case of a bad workman blaming his tools. It is their prices, which seem to be perpetually almost halved.

In several areas of trade, such as bedding, furniture, carpets and domestic appliances, it is forbidden to make comparisons with manufacturers' recommended prices, because they had become notoriously meaningless. Yet it is still permitted with typewriters, where such comparisons are just as misleading.

An advance from the latest report of the Advertising Standards Authority: people objected

to an advertisement offering a typewriter at £199.95. It stated "recommended retail price £383-50". They said the manufacturers themselves advertised the typewriter as being sold at "around £200", reducing the saving" to about 50%.

The complaint was not upheld. Indeed the manufacturers' recommended retail price already so wildly disconnected from the selling price, has since increased again, and now stands at £394.44. "It is outside our remit," says the ASA's pathological sky has not been performed in any community before.

Harrison, who studied in Bulgaria and speaks the language well enough to convey the savours of English pastoralism to Sofian strings, says the Bulgarians are keen to diversify their music, but cannot afford to pay orchestral parts in the West.

In this instance the Vaughan Williams Trust has donated the royalties of the score which Harrison takes with him.

After my comments yesterday about Easter's new role as the second coming of Christmas, it is with little surprise that I learn that on eight days of Christmas Day with four hours' notice, the John Peel Band at Colchester over Easter. The organiser explained that there had been too much snow at Christmas, so he put the tree up at Easter instead.

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## TREMBLING THRONES OF ARABY

This war between Iran and Iraq has from the start been more ideological than territorial — a war between secular Arab nationalism and revolutionary Shia Islam. Each side in the other's eyes represents an absolute evil — "Persian racism in a religious mask" pitted against a "megalomaniac unbeliever and agent of American imperialism". President Saddam Hussein of Iraq hoped to avert the threat of Shiism revolution in his own country by bringing down the crisis-ridden, disorganized Iranian regime with one devastating blow. Ayatollah Khomeini responded by urging all Muslims "to struggle against the Baghdad regime and to help the Iraqi people free themselves from Baathist oppression".

The latter dénouement now seems nearer than the former. The Ayatollah's government has withheld the Iraqi onslaught and is on the counter-offensive. Mr Hussein is looking with obvious desperation for a face-saving peace, and not finding it. The Iranian leaders are saying, for the moment, that they will respect Iraq's frontiers, but they still refuse to negotiate with the aggressor. It looks as though they are waiting to see if Mr Hussein will be finished off by his own people, hoping that the army which he sent into a costly and futile war will now turn and get rid of him.

President Assad of Syria is hoping that, too. He has felt the blade very near his neck in the last three years, and although on the face of it his domestic enemies — the Muslim Brotherhood — have more in common ideologically with Iran, he knows that it is from his fellow-Baathists in Baghdad that they get moral and material support. The enmity between rival factions of the Baath party surpasses that between Arab and Persian, or even between secularism and militant Islam. Thus Mr Assad and the

Ayatollah have joined forces against their common enemy in Baghdad. Syria has not sent troops — she could ill spare them — but she has tightened the noose around Mr Hussein's neck by closing the Syrian-Iraqi border, and now also the pipeline through which Iraqi oil reaches the Mediterranean.

If Mr Hussein falls, what next? That is the question being anxiously asked in other Arab capitals west and south of Baghdad. Could the humiliated Iraqi army stabilize the situation and end the war, or would it simply open the way to an Islamic republic, Iranian style, dominated by the Shiite *mujahidin* of Najaf and Karbala? And would the contagion stop there, or would it spread to Kuwait, Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates, and the eastern province of Saudi Arabia — all areas where Shiism, like oil, is a subterranean force now bubbling to the surface?

King Hussein of Jordan is worried, too. He must be wondering now if he made the right decision when he switched sides in the Syrian-Iraqi quarrel in the late 1970s. At the time Iraq seemed to have a good deal more to offer, but now his namesake's friendship is becoming something of a liability. Yet it is too late to go back. The "Shah of Jordan" (as the Iranians call him), whose name is stamped on the crates of ammunition captured with the Iraqi forces in Dezful, has no hope of making friends with the revolutionary rulers of Iran. Nor could he hope to gain anything from further upheavals in the Gulf. He and his fellow monarchs have to close ranks against the revolutionary tide, and hope that Iraq can be saved.

Where can they look for help, if not to the largest Arab state, which already provides them with so much of their brain power, and which is still the leading military power in the Arab world: the state which, three years ago, they hounded out of the Arab League for its temerity in making peace with Israel? Egypt is not only about to recover the last segment of its occupied territory but is also in the process of making its re-entry — not triumphant, but on its own terms — into an Arab world that cannot, after all, do without it, just as President Sadat always predicted. While Iraqi missions visit Cairo to discuss arms supplies and other forms of support, an Egyptian delegation plays a key role at a non-aligned conference on the Palestinian in Kuwait; and Egypt, not so long ago all but expelled from the non-aligned movement by a concerted Arab drive, has now been specially asked by Iraq to help prepare the non-aligned summit to be held in Baghdad in September.

Should the West join in this general rallying of pro-Western Arab states behind Iraq? The answer must surely be no. Mr Saddam Hussein is a sanguinary dictator, not worth saving in himself, and any attempt to save him may aggravate our problems with a successor regime. Besides, the Middle East has already suffered too much from Western meddling, which has seldom produced the results that Western leaders hoped for. It is time we stopped trying to play Arab politics and concentrated instead on helping moderate Arabs to reach a solution of the one Middle Eastern problem the West cannot escape responsibility for — the problem of Palestine.

As for Iran, we should all devoutly wish its deliverance from its present barbaric regime. But it is far from certain that that will be achieved quickest by helping Iraq to carry on fighting. At present, Iran's potential Bonapartes are presumably at the front. It is when they return in triumph that the mullahs should watch out.

## THE STATE'S DUTY TO EDUCATE

One man's social cause is another man's bread and butter. While most of us were making what we could of a draughty bank holiday yesterday, the National Union of Teachers were hard at work in Scarborough at their annual conference, facing the prospect of another year of falling educational spending and employment, and asking themselves, in the words of Mr Fred Jarvis, their general secretary, "How can I defend my job and the service in which I work?" (in that order). It is a natural preoccupation, and some of the more lurid flights of pedagogic indignation at the conference can fairly be discounted. But Mr Jarvis and other delegates were able to make effective play with the report of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools, which was published, conveniently for them, just a week earlier.

The inspectors, at whose approach headmasters tremble like fourth-formers, have a reputation for a sober and merciless integrity. Their reports on the state of our schools steadfastly avoid anything resembling the sensational or the politically opportunistic. A report affirming, as last week's did, that "the majority of schools are still well found and the majority of pupils still

adequately served" makes the blood run cold with speculations about the condition of the minority in each case.

As desiccated as an old-fashioned end-of-term report, the document sets out the implications. Most schools and authorities are struggling hard to make the best of things. But disparities of education between one local education authority (LEA) and another are growing, problems caused by the declining number of pupils are intensifying, and shortages of books and materials and deficiencies in the upkeep of buildings are becoming more acute. The pupils who suffer most are the least able, and those in areas of the country already afflicted by the sharpest disadvantages.

Naturally the inspectors leave it to others to express concern about social problems being laid up for the future, about the unemployed, unskilled, and about justice. But in the definition they supply for their term "satisfactory" (a standard which few LEAs succeed in attaining in all respects, and some fail to attain at any point) they clearly make allusion to the statutory duties of LEAs under the 1944 Education Act, and that of the Secretary of State, to ensure,

in the courts if necessary, that those duties are fulfilled.

Of course, education cannot be excluded from the necessary general requirement to cut public expenditure. It is clear from the report that some authorities still fail to do enough to ensure that money is not wastefully spent. Falling rolls have made it possible to cut education hard, and will make further cuts inevitable, but the limits to that process in terms of inflexibility and inequality of provision are already in sight. If disparities are becoming unacceptably wide, the Government has a duty to give a clearer indication of what it regards as acceptable provision than the bare terms of the statute provide. Councils wishing to safeguard their cherished discretion in educational matters should take care that this discretion is not being irresponsibly employed. As for the teachers, who for the most part have been protected successfully from redundancies, they should bear in mind that money spent on salaries cannot be spent on other aspects of educational provision.

These are matters which deserve close investigation when the Commons Select Committee on education starts its hearings next week.

## Surgeon's hungry allies

From Mr Leslie J. Latham

Sir, Readers perhaps have now earned respite from the less jolly aspects of the busy leech, *Hirudo medicinalis*. At least it should be spared confusion with its nasty but remote cousin of the *Haemadipsa* family which so plagued our Burma forces.

What is today forgotten is the fame our clinical leech always enjoyed as a weather prophet, as the insect is notoriously sensitive to the onset of barometric changes. As recently as 1897 this was noted by the Inner Temple's barrister-meteorologist George Chambers in his weather treatise, when the Victorian dedication to leeches was as fashionable as that to antimony pills.

He notes that in calm weather they remain at the bottom of their bottle, but when a change is about they crawl upwards, often many hours in advance. Before any storm onset they are at their most restless, rising up the glass quickly. Only when the change actually occurs do they quieten and descend their bottle. When rain or wind is to be protracted, they remain long at the surface, and will even leave the water, crawling up the side of the bottle.

Perhaps the big cover houses who have to lay off pluvial insurance in this unpredictable island would do well to revive the leech bottle, as should also Citizen Ladbrooke?

Yours faithfully,  
L. J. LATHAM,  
49 Scarsdale Villas,  
Kensington, W8.  
April 1.

## Politics and police

From Councillor Neville C. Goldrein

Sir, I was interested, and concerned, to read Lady Simey's letter on the matter of police (April 1). There is no anomaly in police authorities having two thirds of their members political and one third magistrates. The police involvement is with law and order and so it is reasonable, and was so considered by the legislature, that a proportion of the input should be from quasi-judicial members, being magistrates.

It is a fact that in Merseyside the dominant Labour Party in the original Metropolitan County Council, up to 1977, originated the practice of treating the magistrates as part of the opposition when allocating the seats on the Police Committee. They did not, according to Lady Simey's assertion, follow an existing practice as the metropolitan counties were new and this was an opportunity to start with a clean sheet.

The magistrate members are just as important as the political members and it is in no way essential that the controlling political party should have overall control of the police authority. Had this been the intention, the magistrate members could have been specifically stated in the Act to be non-voting.

When my party held control, from 1977 until 1981, we adopted the practice of the 20 political seats being apportioned between the three political parties in accordance with their numbers

on the council. The result of this was, in fact, that had the minority Labour and Liberal parties wished to vote with the magistrates against the controlling Conservatives we could have been outvoted — and indeed on one occasion we were. This was a chance we were prepared to take in the interests of preserving a democratic approach and to fulfil the intentions of Parliament.

When the Labour Party resumed control in May, 1981, it immediately reverted to the original scheme so that whilst the Conservatives have over 25 per cent of the members of the county council they only have three members on the Police Committee.

The magistrates were introduced, I am sure, to be a proper safeguard against the exercise of improper political interference. I do not suggest for one moment that politics should be banned from policing, but I firmly believe that the police should not be pawns in the political game.

The duty of the police authority is to preserve law and order and not to combine that with political advantage, or the support of political philosophies which are shared in many instances by only a minority of the population the police force serves.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,  
NEVILLE GOLDREIN,  
Leader of the Conservative  
Group,  
Merseyside County Council,  
PO Box 25,  
Metropolitan House,  
Old Hall Street,  
Liverpool.

April 1.

## A longer view on Middle East oil

From Mr A. R. K. Mackenzie

Sir, Few people would deny that it is important to have a coherent strategy for such a vital area as the Middle East; nor that such a strategy means that our political, cultural and economic policies should all be moving in the same direction. But are they?

On the one hand, we go to consider paths to improve our political relations in the area and, in particular, such policy as Death of a Prince. Yet we seem as often to recover the last segment of its occupied territory but is also in the process of making its re-entry — not triumphant, but on its own terms — into an Arab world that cannot, after all, do without it, just as President Sadat always predicted. While Iraqi missions visit Cairo to discuss arms supplies and other forms of support, an Egyptian delegation plays a key role at a non-aligned conference on the Palestinian in Kuwait; and Egypt, not so long ago all but expelled from the non-aligned movement by a concerted Arab drive, has now been specially asked by Iraq to help prepare the non-aligned summit to be held in Baghdad in September.

Should the West join in this general rallying of pro-Western Arab states behind Iraq? The answer must surely be no.

Mr Saddam Hussein is a sanguinary dictator, not worth saving in himself, and any attempt to save him may aggravate our problems with a successor regime. Besides, the Middle East has already suffered too much from Western meddling, which has seldom produced the results that Western leaders hoped for.

It is time we stopped trying to play Arab politics and concentrated instead on helping moderate Arabs to reach a solution of the one Middle Eastern problem the West cannot escape responsibility for — the problem of Palestine.

As for Iran, we should all devoutly wish its deliverance from its present barbaric regime. But it is far from certain that that will be achieved quickest by helping Iraq to carry on fighting.

At present, Iran's potential Bonapartes are presumably at the front. It is when they return in triumph that the mullahs should watch out.

Yours faithfully,  
A. R. K. MACKENZIE,  
4 Buckingham Place, SW1.  
April 6.

From Professor H. W. Singer

Sir, Some of us have been advocating in *The Times* and elsewhere a "global bargain" with Opec. Two key elements of this bargain would be an offer to Opec of inflation-proof investments for their surpluses in exchange for a reduction in oil prices for the poorer developing countries.

May I now point out that, in the recent Budget, we have offered Opec quite unconditional and unilateral inflation-proof investments for their surpluses through the new indexed gilds which will soon be freely available to all investors, including Opec. Thus what has been advocated as a bargain with Opec has now turned out to be a bargain for Opec.

It is too late to discuss with Opec a counterpart to this unilateral concession? At the moment obviously this concession is only made by the United Kingdom but, if it results in a large diversion of Opec funds to London, one imagines that it may not be long until other countries offer similar facilities to Opec on an equally unilateral and unconditional basis. Then the chance of using this concession as a basis of a broader bargain with Opec would have been lost.

It may be thought that at this very moment, when oil prices are on the slide and Opec is in some disarray, the need for a global bargain has disappeared. I believe, however, that this would be a very shortsighted view.

Yours faithfully,  
H. W. SINGER,  
The Institute of Development  
Studies,  
University of Sussex,  
Brighton,  
Sussex.  
March 31.

## Health scrutinies

From Mrs M. E. Parsons

Sir, In her article about health scrutinies (April 2) Annabel Ferriman refers to the possibility of raising extra money for the health service by charging insurance companies more efficiently for the hospital care of traffic victims.

The Royal Commission on Civil Liability and Compensation for Personal Injury (the Pearson commission) looked at this question, and paragraphs 1082-1085 of volume one of their report deals with road accident treatment costs. In paragraph 1084 it is stated: "The amount currently recovered by the National Health Service... is probably less than 5 per cent of the costs incurred, which amounted to nearly £50m in 1976" and, in paragraph 1085: "We are in no doubt that the present provisions for recovering the cost of treating road accident victims are ineffective..."

The commission's report was published in March, 1976.

Yours faithfully,  
ELIZABETH PARSONS,  
Secretary to the Pearson  
Commission,  
18 St James Mansions,  
West End Lane, NW6.  
April 3.

## Gas supply

From Professor S. C. Littlechild

Sir, Jonathan Davis (Business News, March 29) refers to the difficulty faced by the oil companies in competing with British Gas, which has all the early supplies tied up under long-term contracts.

One device for overcoming this problem would be for the Department of Energy to purchase these contracts at a price related to the price paid by British Gas, then to auction the

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Resident's account of Falklands action

From Captain E. P. Carlisle

Sir, May I refer to your report from Christopher Thomas on April 10 and the letter of Mr Rex Hunt, in your paper today (April 12).

I returned to Britain on Saturday under the protection of the Swiss Diplomatic Corps as, after freely leaving the Falkland Islands on Thursday, I had been subjected to six hours of intensive questioning and a minute search of my person and all belongings and papers by the Argentine security services at both Comodoro Rivadavia and Buenos Aires. My reasons for returning to this country were that I believed that I could give valuable information to the Foreign Office and Ministry of Defence about conditions and the situation of the islands and the inhabitants, which would help defend the present situation and reduce the possibility of war between Argentina and Great Britain.

Surely this is very short-sighted? As your contributor acknowledged, either world economic recovery or the next Middle East crisis could trigger off a new oil price rise very rapidly. Can it therefore be in our interest to undercut or alienate Sheikh Yamani? Are we likely to get someone better in his place?

In raising such questions one has no intention of appeasing Opec. Nor does one ignore the short-term stocking problems of the oil companies. Yet one should surely bear in mind that the oil producers now are in a more accommodating frame of mind, and that we badly need their cooperation, not only over energy supplies but also in working out more adequate answers to Third World problems.

It would therefore seem to me that, instead of simply making Opec sweat, there is urgent need for high-level discussions with Opec countries (especially those in the Gulf), and also between the oil companies and our own Government, to make sure that short-term economic decisions are consistent with our overall strategy.

There were no British casualties and practically no damage done to Government House around which the action took place. One Argentine soldier was killed (there has been one military funeral in Argentina) and, it is believed, one injured. Mr Hunt has greatly exaggerated the number of casualties inflicted. The Argentines have thus been able to claim a military victory which would otherwise have been denied them.

No preparations have been made to mine the three approach roads or to enable the local surrendered.

We have to achieve right not revenge and I am convinced that if the opinion of the islanders is asked the majority would now accept such a magnanimous gesture of transfer of sovereignty under the safeguards mentioned above.

The suspected oil resources can also be developed jointly by Argentina and Great Britain. There is immense goodwill in Argentina towards this country. I trust we will not throw it away.

Yours faithfully,  
E. P. CARLISLE,  
Penywrloed,  
Llanigon,  
Hay-on-Wye, via Hereford.  
April 12.

In the antiquity of many navigational charts still in use, Mr Dawson draws attention to one of the problems facing the oceanographers engaged in such feasibility studies — the sparsity of data relating to many areas of the ocean floor. An appropriate part of the early phase of this research, therefore, is to produce high-quality maps of areas deemed worthy of further study. The equipment used in making such maps includes a range of acoustic instruments (echo sounders, seismic profiling apparatus, side-scan sonar) which not only tell us about the morphology of the seabed but provide information on the nature and thickness of the sediments. This was the type of work being carried out on r. v. Farnella.

Mr Dawson is wrong, however, in considering that the complexity of water motions within the world's oceans negates our efforts. The reason why the oceanic option for HLRW disposal is still worth pursuing is because its effectiveness depends far less on the properties of the water masses than on those of the sediments beneath. The most plausible form that such a disposal might take involves the burial of waste canisters some tens of metres beneath the sea floor.

The effectiveness of this method depends on the effectiveness of the sedimentary barrier between the waste and the sea itself. Thus oceanic disposal of HLRW is, in fact, a form of geological disposal, analogous to methods of disposal on land being explored in number of countries. Since most of the world's surface is covered by ocean, the feasibility of geological disposal cannot be properly evaluated without including marine geology.

In conclusion, radioactive waste exists. Safe methods of storing or disposing of it need to be found. Burial within the sediments of the deep ocean floor is a disposal option which we would be foolish to ignore and which could yet prove to be the optimum method of containing this dangerous material.

The inhabitants of the islands should be offered a new status as full citizens of a renamed "United Kingdom of the Greater British Isles" ("Great Britain", originally so named to distinguish it from Smaller Brittany, is a term much misused; almost any policy that we may eventually adopt on "Northern Ireland" can only be subverted by immersing that name in a wider whole).

The same status (and attitude) should be available (it and when circumstances so permit for inhabitants of other islands such as Ascension, St Helena, Tristan da Cunha and Pernambuco) — I prudently omit other potential candidates.

Y

## SOCIAL NEWS

### Royal engagements

The following engagements for June have been announced from Buckingham Palace:

1. Princess Anne, Chancellor of London University, will visit the Royal Veterinary College.
2. The Prince of Wales, patron, Rainbow Boats Trust, will visit the Pirate Club, Oval Road.
3. The Duke of Edinburgh, patron and trustee, will attend a reception at Buckingham Palace for young people who have reached the gold standard in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award scheme.
4. The Duke of Edinburgh, patron, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, will confer honorary fellowships at the school.
5. Princess Anne will take the salute at a beating retreat by the massed bands of the Royal Marines on Horse Guards Parade to mark the birthday of the Duke of Edinburgh, who will take the salute.
6. The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Royal Regiment of Wales, will visit the 1st Battalion at Aldershot.
- 7-13. Princess Anne, Colonel-in-Chief, 14th/20th King's Hussars, will visit the regiment at Holme, BAOR, and will present a new guidon.
12. The Queen will take the salute at the Queen's Birthday Parade.
13. The Queen will take the salute at a fly-past of Royal Air Force aircraft from the balcony of Buckingham Palace.
14. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend a service for the Order of the Garter in St George's Chapel, Windsor.
15. Princess Anne will inspect the Queen's Company and the Household Cavalry at the Horse Guards Parade.
16. The Duke of Edinburgh, president of the World Wildlife Fund, will open an exhibition of paintings from the Anschutz Collection of Colorado, at the Mall Galleries.
17. Princess Anne will attend a dinner given for delegates to the International Conference at Leeds Castle, Kent.
18. The Queen will inspect the Yeomen of the Guard at Buckingham Palace.
19. The Duke of Edinburgh, a trustee of the National Maritime Museum, will attend a meeting of the trustees at the museum, Greenwich.
20. Princess Anne will visit the Suffolk Show, Ipswich.
21. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a reception at Buckingham Palace for delegates to the Conference of European Speakers.
22. Princess Anne will attend a reception at St Katharine's Dock to celebrate the completion of TS Royalist's 10-year refit.
23. The Queen, a Colonel-in-Chief of the Royal Army Ordnance Corps, will visit the Central Ordnance Depot at Donnington, Shropshire, and will open the central processing building.
24. Princess Anne, patron, Riding for the Disabled Association, will visit the Epsom group, Surrey.
25. The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Artillery, will attend the annual regimental dinner at the Caledonian Club.
26. The Prince of Wales will be present at Capital Radio's "Vendue Day" Battersea Park.
- 27-9. The President of the United States and Mrs Reagan will visit the Queen at Windsor Castle.
30. Princess Anne, Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Signals, will visit the experimental unit of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards (Carabiniers and Greys) at the Signet Library, Edinburgh.
31. The Queen will open the new department of biochemistry at the Moredun Institute of Animal Diseases Research Association, Edinburgh.
32. The Duke of Edinburgh, Chancellor of Edinburgh University, will visit the Wolfson Microelectronics Institute and the student societies centre and sports hall and open the Eric Liddell Athletic Training Centre in Edinburgh.
33. The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will give a garden party at the Palace of Holyroodhouse.

## Fears over conserving buildings

By Charles McKeon  
Architecture Correspondent

Informed concern is now being expressed at a likely backlash against conservation in Britain. Some of the reasons were outlined in a joint Scottish Civic Trust/Planning Exchange conference last week.

On the one hand, money from central sources is wholly inadequate to meet the current demand for repair, maintenance or conversion. Patterns are changing, which render more and more great buildings redundant. The decline in tourism means far fewer of them will be converted into hotels.

The Ministry of Defence, hospital boards, and education departments are all shedding or neglecting important buildings. Town halls, police stations, and magistrates' courts, traditional buildings of high quality, are being rationalised. Upper floors in town centre buildings are becoming too much trouble to restore and are being left empty to rot.

Finally, there is thought to be a conflict between employment and conservation: old buildings get in the way.

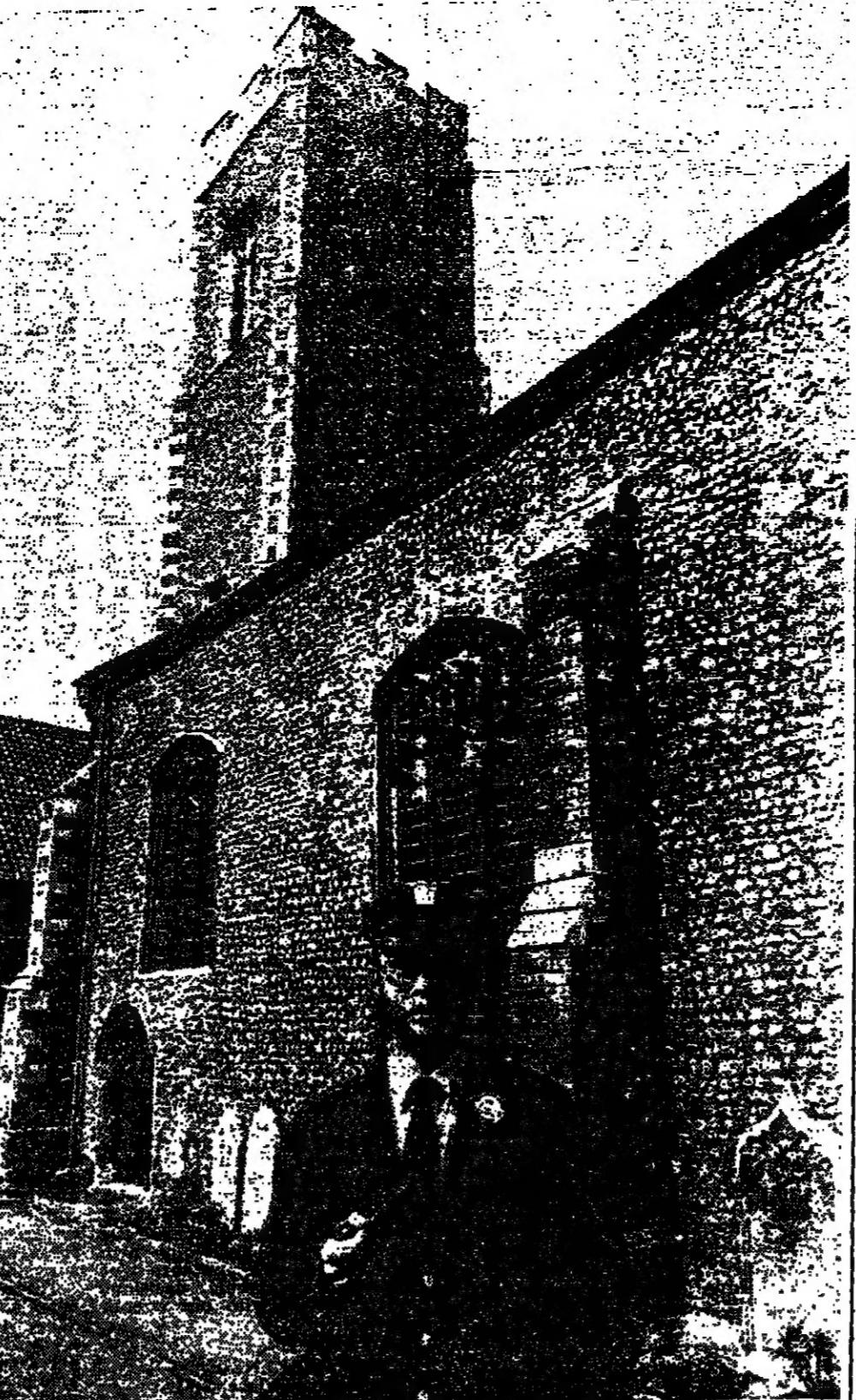
To counter that view, there is now a wealth of experience by non-governmental organisations in converting old properties and raising money for them - in the teeth of official opposition. There is a growing trend for private individuals to invest in conservation projects and to make a reasonable return from them. Many restoration projects have created jobs.

Nonetheless, if conservation is to survive the hard times ahead, much more flexibility will be required from the system. The conference considered that it should include rates relief for restoring derelict buildings or filling gap sites, as in Italy, and the United States, for landmark buildings.

However, the urgency of the problems derives not just from growing opposition. It is clear from the rapidly increasing role of dead, dying, or dangerously ill buildings throughout Britain. The ironic fact is that uses for these buildings are available if only the regulations, controls, the finance, and the authorities were more flexible.

Two positive leads for the future included the example of Glasgow District Council's excellent register of vacant buildings available for letting. Since its introduction, a number of historic properties have found good new uses.

The other is the creation of development trusts. In the 1960s, the latter seems to be destined for a growth industry.



The Rev Jack Burton, who is also a bus driver, outside St Clement's Church.

## Drive to save churches

By Michael Horsnell

When the wool trade pride' Norwich, the third city of the kingdom after London and York during the Middle Ages, the city walls encompassed as many as 31 churches to meet the needs of its prosperous worshippers.

Norwich remains the richest city in Britain for medieval churches but its declining fortunes and shrinking congregation over past 400 years has left it with more than half of its ancient places of worship redundant.

East Anglian determination to cling to its heritage, however, has seen the launch of a five-year programme costing £370,000 by the Norwich Historic Churches Trust to save 16 of its superfluous old churches for social and community uses.

Already one has been converted into a puppet theatre, another into a night shelter for the homeless and others into museums and a social centre.

One, St Clement's Church, which dates from the fifteenth century, has been taken over by Rev Jack Burton, a Methodist minister, who risks £1,000 a year to keep it open as a centre for meditation and prayer. Mr Burton is a bus driver when not conducting church affairs.

## Campbeltown creamery is a maturing investment

By Jonathan Wills, Scottish Correspondent

By all the laws of economics, Campbeltown is the place you would expect to find an industrial success story. However, a cheese factory in the little Argyllshire town has proved otherwise.

Stuck on the end of the 50-mile long Kintyre peninsula, which points at Ireland like a crooked finger, this town of 9,000 people boasts one of the most favourable climates in Europe. Despite being 138 miles by twisting mountain roads from Glasgow, having no railway and with poor ferry connections, the town now produces 10 per cent of all the cheese made in Scotland.

Mr Rupert Cooper, the creamy irrepressible managing director, has recently been appointed to the Highlands and Islands Development Board (HIDB) around the computer-controlled, highly automated plant which has removed most of the chance from Scottish Cheddar making.

Mr Cooper's pride, joy, apart from the ingenious curd-making and packing machines, is the fully equipped laboratory. Here most cheddar has to be ripened in hypodermic needles, pipettes and scientific paraphernalia designed to ensure uniform high quality.

The laboratory is run by Mr Kate Jackson, a science graduate. Together with her staff of two, she has the latest computer technology at her disposal. For example, Mr Cooper persuaded an instrument company to use the chromatography machine that analyses the fat and protein content of the product in a few seconds. It used to take hours.

It is as well that Campbeltown has this bright spot, for town's other industries are going through troubled times. The local shipyard specialised in fishing boats and has been hit by uncertainty over the Community Market fisheries policy, or rather the lack of one. There are hopes of new orders from as far away as Africa but the immediate prospect is of redundancies.

With the cheese market for 3,000 tonnes of cheese a year, worth more than £5m wholesale, the future now looks good.

## Birthdays today



Miss Margaret Price, the opera singer, who is 41.

Mr Samuel Beckett; 76; Mr John Braine, 68; Air Vice-Marshal Sir Bernard Chackford, 69; the Right Rev R. N. Coote, 67; Mr Liam Cosgrave, 62; Mr Beverley Gross, 51; Professor Gordon Duff, 69; Mr Edward Fox, 45; Professor A. H. Haze, 52; Marshal of the RAF Sir Arthur Harris, 90; Mr Graham Hutton, 78; Lord James of Rusholme, 73; Mr Geoffrey Kenton, 80; The Right Rev D. G. Loder, 86; The Duke of Marlborough, 86; Mr Donald O'Hearn, 82; Mr Robert Roberts, 67; Sir Derek Walker-Smith, QC, MP, 72; Lord Wedderburn of Charlton, 55; Lieutenant-General Sir James Wilson, 61; Major-General Sir John Winterbottom, 84.

The Hon Mrs Guy Mansfield gave birth to a son in London yesterday.

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## BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

## INTERNATIONAL



## UNITED STATES

The biggest sale of Federal oil and gas drilling rights in the United States history will take place in Alaska in Fairbanks on May 26 when bidders will be offered 10-year leases on 212 tracts totalling 3.5 million acres. The first sale last January involved 59 tracts covering 1.5 million acres.

General Motors workers' narrow acceptance of a 2½-year concessions package may not be able to save the top American car maker from further labour trouble because it is launching fresh efforts to obtain further concessions at many of its plants.

## JAPAN

Japanese private sector machinery orders, excluding ships, rose 30.8 per cent in February to a seasonally-adjusted 747,000 yen (£1,674.15m) from 572,000 yen in January, when they fell 6.2 per cent from December.

Japanese corporate bankruptcies in fiscal 1981, which ended last month, fell 4.5 per cent to 17,237 from a record 18,212 in fiscal 1980, but this was the third highest annual total.

Mitsubishi Motors announced it would provide information on controlling parts inventories and production, using industrial robots, to Chrysler Corporation of the United States.

Nissan Diesel Motor Co. has concluded a long-term contract to supply American Motors Corporation with diesel engines from mid-1982.

## SAUDI ARABIA

Saudi Arabia could announce a cut in its oil production ceiling of 500,000 barrels a day this week to help Nigeria hold the Opec pricing line, according to the Middle East Economic Survey.

## ITALY

Italy had a trade deficit of 2,931,000m lire (£1,260.6m) in February, compared with deficits of 1,510,000m lire in January and 1,530,000m lire a year earlier.

# Target for Sunday: that elusive reader in the middle

## MARKETING AND ADVERTISING

By Tom Douglas

Fleet Street is on the verge of another circulation and advertising battle. Hard on the heels of the bingo war and the skirmishes in the colour supplement market comes the launch of the first national Sunday newspaper for 21 years.

The *Mail on Sunday*, a sister paper for the *Daily Mail*, is to be launched in less than three weeks' time, on May 2, and all the signs are that its birth — and the response this will provoke from rival papers — will become a big news event in its own right.

Already readers of the *Daily Mail* are being encouraged to sign up with their newsagent to ensure they get their copy of the newspaper. As an incentive, they are being offered a hefty discount — for the first six weeks they can buy it for the same price as the *Daily Mail* — 17p — a saving of 11p on the Sunday's cover price.

Within the first two weeks of the offer, over 150,000 *Mail* readers had put in their orders and John Wimminingham, managing director, is confident that by the day of the launch the newspaper will have more than 300,000 *Mail* readers safely under its belt.

The rest of the £3m advertising and public relations campaign is just beginning. Television commercials and posters are telling people that "The *Mail on Sunday* is on its way, and over the next three weeks there will be any number of television programmes and radio interviews featuring Wimminingham and Bernard Shrimley, editor, as Associated Newspapers brings to a head its campaign to ensure that everyone in the target market is aware that a new Sunday paper is to be born.

For the advertising industry, the launch of any major new publication is an event, but this particular paper has greater goodwill going for it than most. Advertisers love a winner and the *Daily Mail* has been a success in anybody's terms since its relaunch as a tabloid in 1971.

**'Already advertisers have booked more than £2.25m of display advertising with the paper, and that is without even having seen a dummy issue.'**

Readership (in fact, the *Sunday Express*'s readership profile is very similar to that of the *Daily Mail*, which only goes to show how advertisers are as susceptible to images as the rest of us.)

Most advertising agencies are confident that the *Mail on Sunday* will do well. "I'd be very surprised if it didn't do very well," says John Malloway, the media director of Young & Rubicam. "The *Daily Mail* is a superb editorial product and we look forward to that standard and style being carried across to the middle ground on Sundays."

Already advertisers have booked more than £2.25m of display advertising with the paper, and that is without even having seen a dummy issue since editor Shrimley, even at this late stage, is

keeping his editorial product firmly under wraps.

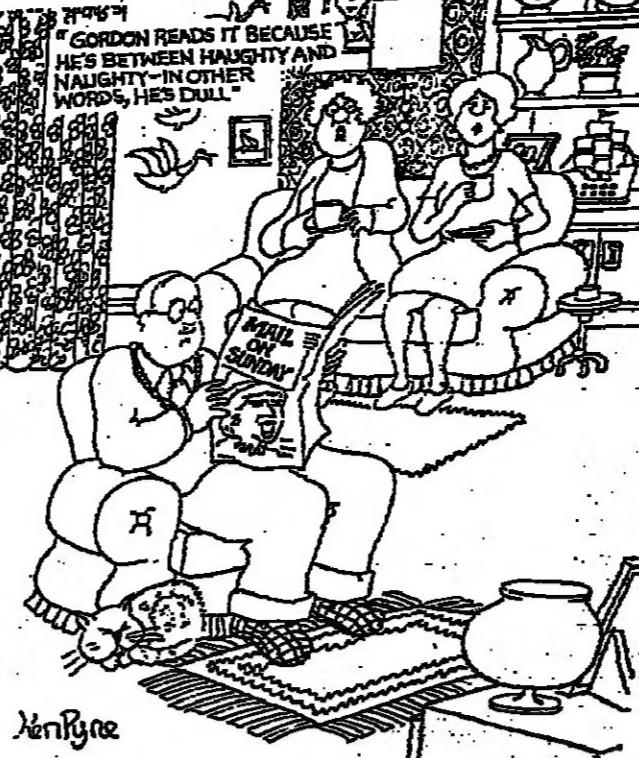
Since the paper's display revenue target is just £6m with a further £2m budgeted for classified revenue, the *Mail on Sunday* is already well on its way to profitability. However, there is all the difference in the world between winning advertising on trust for the early issues of a newspaper — all new publications can sell out their first issues, on curiosity value alone — and sustaining a regular income once that initial interest has died down.

The *Mail on Sunday* is aiming for an initial circulation of 1.25 million, of which it would like 60 per cent to be in the ABC1 socio-economic group. It has based its advertising rates on this supposition and advertising agencies reckon that on these costings it offers a very attractive buy.

Everything depends, however, on whether it can achieve this circulation and this is by no means certain. In the *Mail on Sunday's* favour is the fact that 3.4 million people never read a Sunday paper, and many of these read the *Daily Mail* during the week. The supposition is that if there were a paper they felt at home with on Sunday i.e. a Sunday version of the *Mail* — they would buy it.

On the other hand, rival newspaper publishers are by no means convinced that there really is room for an extra paper, either in readership or in advertising terms. One problem in going for the middle ground, is the fact that the competition comes from all the other papers in the market, and not just one sector.

For months, the other Sunday have been gearing themselves up for the launch of the new paper with, inevitably, the *Sunday Express*, as the paper which has most to lose, in the forefront. While the *Mail on Sunday* has said little about its editorial plans, the *Express* is quite open about its editorial strategy, which centres on its colour magazine, since this is



a feature the new paper lacks:

A number of series are planned by the magazine, which has a new editor, Ron Hall, who formerly edited *The Sunday Times Magazine*. Foremost among these will be the serialization of Robert Lacey's biography of the Princess of Wales. The magazine will also be used to give colour treatment to a number of big stories breaking this summer — the visits of the Pope and of President Reagan, the World Cup, the royal baby — and *Express* executives believe that this will give them a real edge over the *Mail*.

Associated Newspapers thought long and hard about whether to launch a colour magazine with the new paper.

The only two Sunday newspapers to increase their circulation last year were the two that launched colour magazines — the *Express* and the *Newspaper of the World*.

"We might launch one later," says Wimminingham, "but so far we have not found a way of doing it economically. In addition to which, the other colour magazines have been launched primarily as a way of boosting the circulation of their parent papers and we are confident we shall sell every copy we can print without any need for that."

This is not such a reckless boast as it might seem. The fact is that finding sufficient production capacity has been one of the new paper's biggest problems and Associated

is unlikely to be able to print more than 1.1 million copies even if it wanted to. The reason is that for many years Associated Newspapers has printed the *Sunday People* on contract for Mirror Group Newspapers. It has now persuaded *The People* to move its production into a single building, leaving plant free for the *Mail on Sunday*, but it has been a real squeeze. For the first 13 weeks of the paper, when circulation is bound to be abnormally high as readers sample the new paper, it has acquired extra capacity in Manchester.

This will mean it can print up to 2 million copies if necessary, but only as a short-term measure.

Running out of copies, of course, is a problem most publishers would like to have but not everyone believes it is a problem that will affect the *Mail on Sunday*. "I think it may well have a difficult time" says Tony Gatward, associate media director of the Limtais agency.

"There seems to be a feeling that it may only get a circulation of around 1 million, of which some 300,000 might be new purchasers, with 700,000 being syphoned away from the *Sunday Express*, the qualities and the popular."

The real unknown is the large group of *Daily Mail* readers who do not currently take a Sunday paper. Will a new paper motivate them? It may well not."

**'The real unknown is the large group of *Daily Mail* readers who do not currently take a Sunday paper. Will a new paper motivate them? It may well not.'**

**COMMODITIES**

## Copper cuts push prices up

A watershed in the gloomy metal markets was the news last week that Phelps Dodge, the second largest copper producer in the United States, was closing mines until at least the end of May. While smaller producers of the metals have been cutting production and laying off workers for several months, this is the first recorded time recently that such a major producer has closed mines completely. Copper prices

were nowhere near as sharp as they are now. Dean Witter Reynolds estimate that the United States copper industry is operating at only 55 to 60 per cent of capacity.

Blame lies with the low level of economic activity worldwide in the motor, construction and capital goods industries. World industrial production fell by 1.4 per cent in 1980, and rose only 1.4 per cent last year.

While the London Business School, with other economic groups, is forecasting an improvement this year of 1 per cent — this is not likely to materialize until the second half of the year.

In the 1976-77 copper slump the production cuts were nowhere near as sharp as they are now. Dean Witter Reynolds estimate that the United States copper industry is operating at only 55 to 60 per cent of capacity.

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## Business Editor

## Uncertainties ahead

If the present round of diplomatic manoeuvring brings the United Kingdom and the Argentines to the negotiating table without blood being shed, it should provide financial markets with at least some comfort in the week.

But the opening of negotiations over the future of the Falklands would not, of course, do more than lighten the clouds at present overhang markets. For a start there would be no automatic guarantee that the talks would reach a conclusion. And then, even if a deal were concluded, it is still far from clear that the eventual terms would be adequate to secure the Prime Minister's future.

In short, markets face some awkward weeks ahead. But provided we can expect talk rather than fighting, the authorities will presumably be all-out to resist a rise in interest rates.

Whether, perhaps, it becomes clear that United States rates have nowhere to go but upwards.

**Auction houses**

### Hard lessons

The two quoted fine art auction houses finally came down to earth with a bump last week. Christie's International announced a sharp fall in profits, and Sotheby Parkes confirmed that it is having major structural problems which will lead to a trading loss in the current year ending in August.

The reassessment of this ravaged sector of the stock market has come rather late in the day since it is only in the last few months that it has become apparent that the international fine art market was not as resilient as it had earlier looked.

For most of its five year life as a publicly quoted company, Sotheby's trading has gone from strength to strength, with all the attendant publicity surrounding the mega-sales — Rembrandt's *Meat-monger*, Henry Ford II's impressionist collection, the Leonardo da Vinci Codex and so on.

The investment case, which pushed Sotheby's share price up from its 150p public launch to well over 500p before troubles set in, was based on London's dominance in the international market and the commanding position the two British names occupied in the market. In addition, in a period of rising inflation, the auction houses appeared to have a built-in cushion with their income rising in line with the steady increase in art prices.

At the same time the two houses seemed to be heading for a big jump in profits as the fruits of an aggressive overseas expansion started to ripen. And they were free from the sort of mid-stream daily problems like labour disputes and working capital requirements which manufacturing industry has had to grapple with.

So what has gone wrong? For both the houses, one of their major headaches has been if not the collapse of the international art market at any rate, the two houses recognise this, the better they will be able to adapt to new circumstances.

**BANKS AND BROKERS**

In the middle of a big expansion programme — new salerooms in New York, growth in warehouse capacity and increasing staff numbers cost £13m in two years — Sotheby's suddenly found its costs and revenues lines running in opposite directions.

The question now is whether effective action has been taken in time, or whether the long rumoured bid, perhaps from the United States, will prevent the new management having the headroom to put new ideas into action. But the real lesson for the two houses over the past year, which has also seen how far they have allowed themselves to become separated from the market with the buckling over the buyers' premium, is that there is at the end of the day no difference between the international art market and any other market. The sooner the two houses recognise this, the better they will be able to adapt to new circumstances.

### Convertible prices (yields and premiums)

**STANDARD & POOR'S**

Constitutive Bonds

Conv. Price

Price

Conv. Premium

Conv. Yield

Conv. Dividend

Conv. Date

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Conv. Dividend

Conv. Date

# Stock Exchange Prices

## Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 29. Dealings End, April 16. § Contango Day, April 19. Settlement Day, April 26.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in Issue for the stock quoted)

phase than at the end of the 1970s. By their very nature the big sales are lumpy and there have been none of the really big auctions which have helped profits in earlier years. That has forced both groups back to their bread and butter business at the medium and small end of the market at a time when increasing competition in the whole market has also led them into commission

The difficulties have been most acute across the Atlantic where both Christies and Sotheby's have spent heavily to cash in on what they rightly identified at the time as a boom in the North American market. But for the past year high United States interest rates have pulled the rug from under this market.

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# Adverbs and prepositions

1. *Leucosia* *leucostoma* *leucostoma*  
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**STOCKS**

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City are on the receiving end again

Manchester City, beaten 5-0 by Liverpool on Saturday, were on the end of another battering at Molineux yesterday. John Bond's men were tested and tormented by a Wolves side playing more like championship contenders than relegation stragglers.

The game was over as a contest in the first 45 minutes when the rampant Wolves scored four times, through Gray, Clarke, Hibbert and Eves. McDonald scored a second half consolation for City.

Mr Bond, revealed afterwards that he had left out Reid, a defender, as a disciplinary measure, after an incident in training on Sunday. Reid was unscathed when he lost his central defensive place to Bond's son, Kevin, recently and had to play in midfield. Mr Bond said: "I still firmly believe Manchester City will be among the top teams next year."

Manchester United took advantage of a day when none of the teams above them was in action to move into fourth place with hard-earned 1-0 win over West Bromwich Albion at Old Trafford. Moran, a defender, scored the sixty-second-minute winner.

The big London derby finished with Tottenham winning 3-1 at Arsenal, thanks mainly to two second half goals from Garth Crooks; the real hero was the Argentine, R Villa, who was booed by Arsenal fans, but set up two of the goals.

Sunderland moved off the bottom of the first division with a 2-0 win over Birmingham City. West scored the goals.

Nottingham Forest gained revenge for an early season defeat by neighbours City, drawing 1-1 at the City Ground at Middlesbrough. Bowyer gave them the lead, Christie equalized, only for a 19-year-old, Plummer, to head an 83rd-minute winner. It was the first time Forest had scored twice in a match since January.

Geddes, deputising for the injured Shanks, showed his worth to Aston Villa, with two goals against Brighton. Evans was Villa's other scorer in a 3-0 win.

Luton Town increased their lead at the top of the second division, beating Norwich City with goals from Stein and Jennings. Nearest rivals Watford, had a Blister 'goal' disallowed, but earned a point on Queen's Park Rangers' artificial pitch, before more than 22,000 spectators.

## Gloom lifted at Old Trafford

Manchester U 1 - W Abram 0. Manchester United finally won at home, scoring once only in their last five games at Old Trafford. Moran headed the goal in the 67th minute after Stapleton had challenged Albion keeper Grew for a Coppell corner.

In an uninspiring game, Stapleton and McGarvey both had chances before United's winner.

Watford's win was typical. Rix began to produce diagonal crosses and Hoddle would not have been ashamed to claim.

Tonight, Tottenham will be back at White Hart Lane to receive Sunderland. Three more points then and even Merseyside may cast an anxious eye towards the capital. The task still looks formidable, but the way it's heading, Hoddle is undeniably

# Spurs on course to scale that mountain



Kiss of success: Hazard smiles as Crooks scores his second goal.

By Gerald Sinstadt

Arsenal ..... 1

Tottenham H. .... 3

Whatever scepticism there may be in other parts, there was no sign in north London yesterday that Tottenham Hotspur's many-sided ambitions will be self-defeating.

Spurs beat Arsenal at Highgate, the light-footed, imaginative display that gave no hint of a team bewildered by too many targets or burdened by too many fixtures. Arsenal themselves played a full part in an enthralling derby match that was won, as their manager, Terry Neill, readily conceded after

what, by the latter's terms.

Tonight, Tottenham will be back at White Hart Lane to receive Sunderland. Three more

points then and even Merseyside may cast an anxious eye towards the capital. The task still looks

formidable, but the way it's

heading, Hoddle is undeniably

Arsenal made at least as many chances as their opponents, but it was Tottenham who contributed the genuine invention and menacing thrusts.

Hoddle, once again in the form that raises World Cup hopes, was at the heart of so much that was

good, though it was

not Tottenham who threatened

most. Hazard struck a half-volley just wide. Hoddle fired in a fierce shot that struck Wood, off

balance and stumbling, somehow

scoring. G. Crooks

Armenian (Mid-Germany)

Arsenal's response was typical. Rix began to produce diagonal crosses and Hoddle would not have been ashamed to claim.

Tottenham's Hoddle had a better night, though he was not to be denied. Roberts opened Arsenal's right flank, Galvin and Villa carried the move sweetly across the penalty area, and Crooks scored his second goal.

Hoddle and Sansom both had

good shots well saved, and just as

it seemed that the game might

drift to a quiet close, a woman

did for Tottenham what Erika Roe

did for West Ham.

It was not afternoon when anyone could

have felt justified in asking for

his money back.

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# Simply Great to prove his class

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent

True to tradition the Craven Stakes is the centrepiece of the programme on this the first day of the three-day Craven meeting. It has been sponsored by Ladbrokes Leisure again along with the handicap that precedes it. Twelve months ago this classic surprised one of the big surprises of the season when To-Agoon, who subsequently won the £2,000 Guineas, just failed to beat King of Hush even though he started at 100-30 on.

To-Agoon's trainer, Guy Harwood, will be hoping for better things from Norwick, who also took high rank in the European two-year-old classification last season, having finished second in France's most important race for two-year-olds, the Grand Critérium, besides winning the Royal Lodge Stakes at Ascot and four other lesser races. However, in this instance there are grounds for thinking that Harwood may have given up on a disappointed man. For no-one should be surprised if Norwick fails to give Sib to Lester Piggott's mount, Simply Great.

Although he is now third favourite in most betting lists on the 2,000 Guineas, Simply Great sports a pedigree that is much more impressive than the Doncaster filly looking to him to provide a valuable pointer to Epsom by winning this afternoon. The really encouraging thing about Simply Great is that he shows so much speed at home for one bred to stay a mile and a half.

This applies in particular with the likes of Cajun, who won the Middle Park Stakes last Autumn, the Harris Hill Stakes, third, Match Winner, and Ivan, who won the Houghton Stakes, convincing both Henry Cecil and Piggott that his future is secure. In last year's Dewhurst Stakes was little more than a nightmare and best forgotten. Simply Great looked dull in his coat that day and it transpired that he ran a temperature later that evening.

Simply Great had won his only previous race nicely enough, but more important he had shown himself to be pretty smart at home as early as July before he had the misfortune to suffer from the chronic skin disease which caused much of his hair to fall. It is thought that his improved handicapping ratings, public and private, will point to Simply Great facing a monumental task



Capricorn Line coasts home from Le Soleil at Kempton to earn a run in Chester's Ormonde Stakes.

Eddery on the favourite Acantha after only a furlong and a half under the whip. Murray finished tail-off on the hitherto unbeaten Filly Dancing Rocks who started favourite for the Masaka Stakes. Dancing Rocks looked very distressed when she was unsaddled and in the surprising absence of any official steward, the trainer's son, Geoffrey Wragg, commissioned a private dope test.

The race in question was won most decisively by Time Charter, who was Henry Candy's third

winner from only four runners this season. Afterwards, Candy confirmed that she would take her chance in the 1,000 Guineas.

□ Sandhurst Prince, deposed as

favourite for the 2,000 Guineas

after his flop at Kempton Park

on Saturday, returned home to

the surprising absence of any official

steward, the trainer's son, Geoffrey Wragg, who was eventually beaten by a head.

Bois de Grace was carrying the

colour of the Bay gelding

Rothchild to victory in the

Metropole for the fourth time.

The colt is now a likely runner

for the one and a half mile Prix

Hocquart in May when he will

again meet Eddery.

Cadoudal was a somewhat

surprising 6-4 favourite for the

Prix Grimaldi, which won't

be run in England for a year

after the French one.

The cameras patrol film of the

takes both from head-on

and side-on showed all too clearly

that he had badly hampered Pat

## Newmarket programme

Total double: 3.0 and 4.5. Treble: 2.30, 3.0, 3.30 and 4.35.

2.0 STETCHWORTH STAKES (3-y-o maidens): £3,340. 5f (15 runners)

1/1 44200 GAY COCK (M) P Kellington 9-0  
2/1 40000 HIGH REALM (M) Fusick 9-0  
3/1 40000 ROSETTY (M) Teller 9-0  
4/1 40000 SPECIAL (M) Grosvenor 9-0  
5/1 40000 SUPER GRASS (S) Fraser 9-0  
6/1 40000 VICTORY HOUSE (D) Freedman 9-0  
7/1 44-4 FLORENCE (G) J Darrell 9-0  
8/1 42000 ROSSIE (B) R Sangster 9-0  
9/1 40000 VICTORY HOUSE (D) Gordon 8-1  
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of February 11th  
are holding a  
fundraising  
event. Staff will  
be available  
to answer  
questions about  
the company's  
activities. The  
company's  
headquarters  
is located at  
100 Newgate Street,  
London EC1A 7AA.  
The event will be held  
from 10am to 4pm  
on Saturday 11th  
February. All  
proceeds will go  
to the charity.  
For more information  
please contact  
the company's  
headquarters  
at 100 Newgate  
Street, London EC1A  
7AA.

FRANCE FINANCIER DE SUEZ

RECRUITMENT  
OPPORTUNITIES

ACCOUNTS CLERKS: We are looking for experienced accounts clerks to join our team. You will be required to handle a variety of accounts, including sales, purchases and general ledger work. Experience in accounts is essential. We offer competitive pay and excellent benefits. If you are interested in this opportunity, please apply online or send your CV to:

SALES JOB OFFERED FOR IMMEDIATE  
APPOINTMENT

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ADVERTISING

PUBLIC NOTICES

ADVERTISING

# Pledge of action by teachers on pay arbitration

By Richard Garner of The Times' Educational Supplement

A teachers' leader said yesterday that there would be immediate industrial action in schools if the Government refused to accept the recommendations of an independent arbitration hearing on their pay claim.

Mr Ronald Winters, chairman of the salaries committee of the National Union of Teachers (NUT), said at the union's annual conference in Scarborough: "If there is any attempt to interfere with the independence of the arbitration, our action will be immediate and strong and united."

The teachers' claim for a pay increase in line with inflation (now about 11 per cent) went to arbitration two weeks ago when local education authorities refused to implement an original offer of 3.4 per cent. Attempts by the local authorities to increase that offer were vetoed by representatives of the Department of Education and Science (DES) at a meeting of the management side of the Burnham Committee, which negotiates teachers' pay.

Under the Remuneration of Teachers Act, 1965, the Government had power to set aside an arbitration award to teachers by introducing a Bill to that effect in both Houses of Parliament.

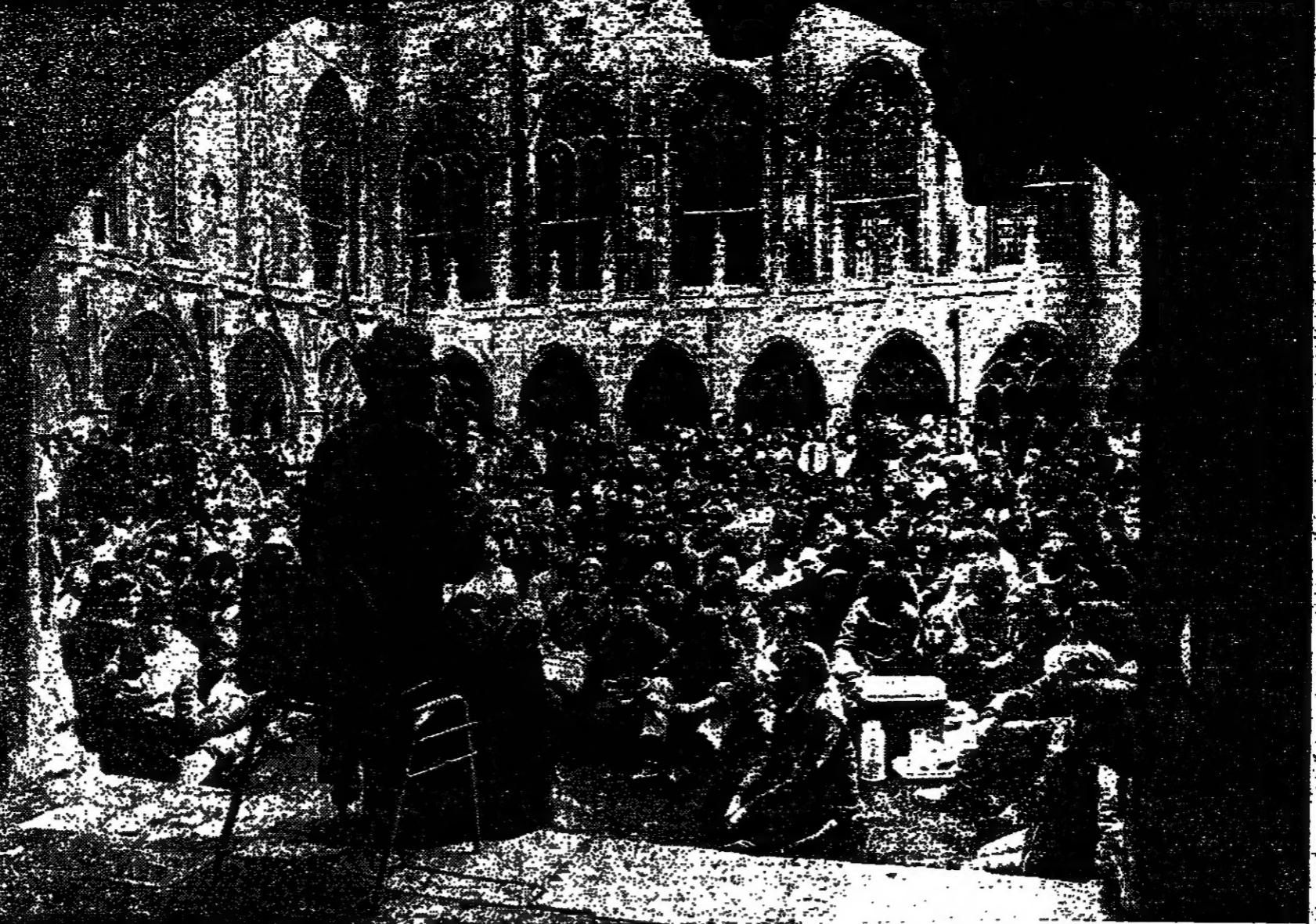
Mr Winters, speaking during a debate on the NUT's salary policy for next year, added: "There are some in our profession who hold up their hands in pious horror when we resort to action, but they are always ready to hold out their hands to receive their share of the money we gain."

"Of course we are a caring and responsible profession. We have always had a traditional reluctance to take action which will inevitably affect the schools in which we work. But that care and responsibility that we show has never been seen by our employers or any government as a virtue to be rewarded but rather as a weakness to be exploited."

Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, was accused at the conference of encouraging a "surreptitious" return to secondary modern grammar school divisions within the comprehensive system.

Mr Fred Jarvis, NUT

Leading article, page 7



Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, also met several hundred young pilgrims from the South-east yesterday. He talked with them over a picnic lunch at the Cathedral and answered questions.

## Peace campaigners ask church for support

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

More than a thousand peace demonstrators occupied the nave of Canterbury Cathedral yesterday to protest Dr Robert Runcie, the Archbishop, with letters appealing for his support.

Miss Joan Ruddock, national chairman of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, told Dr Runcie that the British Government had rejected the proposals for progressive disarmament of a 22-nation non-aligned group at the United Nations. A special session of the UN-General Assembly on world disarmament will open in June.

Delegates refused to suspend standing orders to debate an emergency motion on the Falkland Islands which called on the Government to withdraw the naval task force.

Therefore, we turn to the leaders of our community like yourself, believing that the Church has a very special concern for peace," she said. Dr Runcie said he would study the hundreds of letters

## Junta denies holding Marines

Continued from page 1

Military preparations are being made for the arrival of the British Fleet.

Argentine sources claimed that the runway at Port Stanley was long enough for Mirage jets to land and take off and further claimed that a number of the fighters were parked on the runway and ready for combat. The runway was built by the Argentines under a contract with Britain in 1971 to provide a regular air link to Argentina. There is no confirmation of this claim.

The Junta refused to confirm today that it had withdrawn most of its military ships to safe areas in the South Atlantic in response to Britain's threat to sink any naval vessels found within a 200-mile radius of the Falklands.

But sources said some ships were standing by in shallow water where it would

be dangerous for a submarine to penetrate. They were said to be within easy reach of the Air Force and the Fleet Air Arm.

Reports from the southern Argentine port of Comodoro Rivadavia said there were incessant comings and goings of aircraft. Senior Nelson Dames, the local civil defence leader, said cellars were being fitted out and provisioned as shelters in case of attacks by British forces.

The local hospital, which now has a large red cross painted on the roof, has been fitted out as an emergency centre for wounded soldiers.

The military junta today dismissed reports that it might hold 22 British Marines as hostages. The Marines, with 13 civilians, were captured in the Falklands dependency of South Georgia on April 3 and have not been seen since. A Government spokesman said they were on their way to Montevideo, Uruguay, by sea and he believed the civilians had also left the island. They would all be "handed over" to the British Embassy.

The Junta strenuously denied that it was receiving help from the Soviet Union by way of satellite picture of the advancing British naval force. "Our interests with the Soviet Union are strictly commercial. We do not share any political or ideological alliance."

The British Community Council, a Buenos Aires-based organization that coordinates the extensive charity work among the British community in Argentina, today sent a telegram to Mrs Thatcher saying that force should not be used and indicating that the Islanders would have more to gain than lose by living under Argentine rule.

## Negotiated settlement 'almost certain'

Continued from page 1

sovereignty or a United Nations presence.

The senior Tory MP also joined Mr Pym in emphasising the need for a settlement to be acceptable to the islanders.

Certainly, there seemed little danger last night that the Foreign Secretary was moving out of step with his own backbenchers.

One right-wing Conservative MP, Mr Anthony Marlow, member for Northampton, North, agreed that the wishes of the islanders should be a key to any settlement as it had been during 15 years of negotiation.

Mr Marlow also said that the possibility of "lancing the boil" had raised his own hopes that a settled future for the islands may now open the way to a development of resources around the islands; something which had hitherto been blocked by the festering dispute with Argentina.

Dr Owen said in his radio interview: "Presumably, if a United Nations peace keeping force were to be there at all, even a United Nations presence they would have a flag, and if a British Governor were to be there, administering the islands on behalf of Britain, there would be a British flag. I suppose it is probably inevitable that there are some Argentinean flag flies there as well."

Dr Owen added, however: "What I don't think any Government could accept is the Argentine flag flying, because that would be an assumption that British sovereignty had been conceded, and we would not be prepared to do that."

He said that a negotiated settlement was now "almost certain reality". The only danger was that British public opinion should become more hawkish, more tough-minded than that of the islanders themselves.

"I don't want the Falkland Islanders conceding anything under duress," he explained. "But I do believe there is a sense of realism amongst the Falkland Islanders: they are going to have to live in the Southern Atlantic, they are going to be dependent on Argentina, for communications and many links."

"I believe they are realistic enough to know that out of this is going to have to come some settled relationship between the Falkland Islands and Argentina."

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

**Royal engagements**  
Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother attends a gala concert given by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall, 7.20.

#### New exhibitions

Peter Moore's Liverpool Project 6 - Art into the 80's including work by Henry Moore, Max Ernst, Jasper Johns, David Hockney and John Bellany. Fruit Market Gallery, 29 Market Street, Edinburgh. Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30, closed Sun; (from today until April 24)

Drawings and prints by Stephen Fryer, Stafford Museum and Art Gallery, The Green, Stafford;

Tues to Sat 10 to 5, closed Sun and Monday; (from today until May 8).

Installations and drawings by Brian Kennedy, Art and Research Exchange, Lombard Street, Belfast. Mon to Sat 12 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (from today until April 23).

Design in India; an exhibition tracing the historical development of modern design in India from the early forties, with 3-D exhibits, models and photographs; Commonwealth Institute, Kensington High Street, W8; Mon to Sat 10 to 5.30 and Sun 2 to 5 (from today until April 23).

Last chance to see  
Photographs by Raymond Moore, RPS National Centre of Photo-

tography, The Octagon, Milson Street, Bath, 10 to 4.45; (ends today).

Embroideries from Gujarat and Rajasthan, an exhibition in conjunction with The Festival of the Arts of India, Sheffield City Museum, Weston Park, Sheffield, 10 to 5; (ends today).

#### Talks, films

Colour in the garden, talk with slides by Stuart Cave, Manvers Street Baptist Church, Bath, 7.

Sargent, by Richard Humphries, Tate Gallery, 1.

Animal Camouflage, By Steve Pollock, Natural History Museum, 3.

Films: Florence — the restoration of books (1), Botticelli — the story of spring (2), both at National Gallery, 1.

Thebes, 11.30 and Nubia, 1.15, both by George Hart, British Museum.

Thames

Not So Dusty: a selection of music presented by Dick Johnstone, Carshalton Sutton, 8.

Cornel Music Group recital, Southwark Cathedral, 1.10 pm.

Recital by Gilbert Towland (Harpischord), Purcell Room, South Bank, 7.30.

Concert by the Baroque Strings, Zurich, Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, 7.45.

Concert by Luciano Pavarotti (tenor), with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Albert Hall, 7.30.

Organ recital by Andrew Goodwin, Bangor Cathedral, 1.15.

Wales and the West: Subsidence at Holywell, Clwyd, Only half road open serious delays. Use A548 coast road or A493 road (A52); A39/A38: roundabout, diversion for westbound traffic, sarcophagus limit A38: Restrictions at Beacons junction 10 and 11 near Crawley.

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Midlands: A34: Very long delays on Birmingham, London, Stratford, and also at Bridgwater.

Racing: Flat meetings at Newmarket (2.0) and Warwick (2.15). NB at Cheltenham (2.0), Wetherby (2.0) and Uttoxeter (2.0). See page 14.

Rugby: Union: Newport v Barbarians (3.15).

Walls

Ghosts of the City, meet St Paul's Cathedral, 7.30.

Jack the Ripper Murders 1888, meet Aldgate East Underground (Art Gallery Exit), 7.30.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Five first division matches, two second, three third and three fourth. See page 13.

Racing: Flat meetings at Newmarket (2.0) and Warwick (2.15). NB at Cheltenham (2.0), Wetherby (2.0) and Uttoxeter (2.0). See page 14.

Snooker: International 14 (Newport Pagnell) and 18 (A428 Rugby) in Northamptonshire cause sessions delay.

The North: A100 and A56 north of Scotch Corner to junction with A68 and full length of A66 north Yorkshire, occasional lane closures.

Scotland: A77, Kilmarnock Road, near Auldhouse road (B752), Glasgow, one lane only each way. A5: North of Blair Atholl resurfacing. A52: Closed between Inverness junction and Charlotte Street.

Midlands: A34: Very long delays on Birmingham, London, Stratford, and also at Bridgwater.

Racing: Flat meetings at Newmarket (2.0) and Warwick (2.15). NB at Cheltenham (2.0), Wetherby (2.0) and Uttoxeter (2.0). See page 14.

Snooker: International 14 (Newport Pagnell) and 18 (A428 Rugby) in Northamptonshire cause sessions delay.

The locomotive, designed by William Strudwick, the railway engineer, was introduced in 1882 for running between London and the South Coast.

Activities include quizzes, book rubbings and looking through microscopes. There are also natural history specimens such as bones, fossils and stuffed birds which visitors can inspect and handle. Worksheets can be obtained at a small charge for children to use in the galleries.

The collection is open until April 24, 10.30 to 12.30, and from 2.00 to 4.00pm. It is closed on Sundays and Mondays. Entrance is free and the museum is in Cromwell Road, London SW7.

Family centre

There are many activities of interest for children and parents at the Natural History Museum's family centre.

Activities include quizzes, book

rubbings and looking through

microscopes. There are also

natural history specimens such

as bones, fossils and stuffed

birds which visitors can inspect

and handle. Worksheets can be

obtained at a small charge for

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Anniversaries

Thomas Jefferson, third presi-

dent of the United States, Shadwell, Va., 1743; Richard Trevitick, engineer, Illogan, Cornwall, 1771; F W Woolworth, New York, 1852.

Secessionists take Fort Sumter, Charleston, West Virginia — the beginning of the American Civil War, 1861.

Solution of Puzzle No 15, 803

CANTERBURY MAP

YDRA HABUJAH

CANNONBALL WIMZ

SEK PES

STRIDENT REFAST

BLUE EAT

LEADSMAN SOLE

FRONTIER

HARVEST NOTABLY

IDEAL BAROOLF

FLAME LYNX

FLASHCARP

FLASHCARP